Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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US House panel OKs giving $32.5M for NMI food stamp. PAGE 3
THC's Long named National State Excellence awardee. PAGE 5

2 Guam soldiers killed in Afghanistan

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos said the CNMI joins Guam in mourning the death of two Guam soldiers in Afghanistan last week, barely a few weeks after some 600 Guardsmen from the Marianas were deployed to that country in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Guam Gov. Eddie Calvo declared Guam in a state of mourning after confirming Saturday evening the passing of Sgt. Eugene M. Aguon of Mangilao and Spc. Dwayne W. Flores of Sinajana.

Flores and Aguon, both 23, were killed Thursday in Kabul, Afghanistan, when a suicide bomber hit the convoy they were part of.

See SOLDIERS on Page 4

ONLY SEMI-SUB ON SAIPAN HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

The crew releases the rope holding the CNMI's newest ride and only semi-submarine, *Nautilus Saipan*, as Capt. Mark Santos of Auto Marine Inc. prepares to steer the vessel toward Outer Cove Marina Saturday morning. Unlike a commercial submarine, the 63-foot *Nautilus Saipan* stays on top of water while giving up to 49 passengers an underwater tour through its 35 viewing windows. With the CNMI's tourism industry picking up, owner Jefferson Santos says this is the best time to offer something new to visitors. The semi-sub starts operation this week. For information, contact 898-9358.

2 hurt, 3 cars damaged in tree branch fall

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A branch from a rotting flame tree fell Friday morning, injuring two women and damaging three vehicles that were parked in front of Saipan Bowling Center/J's Restaurant in San Jose.

The accident occurred about 11:45am when one of the two big branches of the blooming flame tree split from its trunk and fell.

Carol Mckenzie, 50, sustained a lump on the head, while her friend, Edena Siruma, 42, had a small scratch on her

See TREE on Page 4

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Employees of Saipan Bowling Center/J's Restaurant remove the branches of a flame tree that fell on three vehicles parked in front of the establishment Friday morning. A portion of the restaurant's roof was also damaged.

Inos inks new extradition letter for Ed Buckingham

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» **Cost to bring back former AG could be some $15,000**

Gov. Eloy S. Inos signed Friday afternoon a letter requesting Colorado Gov. John W. Hickenlooper to have former attorney general Edward Buckingham "arrested, secured and delivered" into the U.S. Marshals Service's custody, for extradition to the CNMI.

Inos believes Buckingham's extradition would be "pretty quick."

The governor also said the cost of

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POLL RESULTS

Do you support the closure of the federal Labor Ombudsman's Office by Sept. 30?

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Probe into Connecticut train crash giving way to cleanup.

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LIFE & STYLE

Beckham's pecs are as much a part of his brand as his kick.

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BIBA Marianas!

Saipan lands on cover of China's leading travel magazine

Word Traveler, China's leading and most respected travel magazine, not only featured Saipan on its May 2014 issue but placed the article on the island hotspot on its front cover as well.

Titled "Extreme Saipan," the article makes up 88 pages of the 180-page May issue of *World Traveler*, which has a monthly circulation of 750,000.

The article's author characterized Saipan as a perfect destination for tourists who are pining for sunshine, beaches, and the sea.

There was also a reference of Saipan being adjacent to the world-famous Marianas Trench, the deepest part of the Earth's oceans.

The author went on narrate the exciting experiences tourists will enjoy during their stay on the island.

"Crystal clear waters and well-kept coral reef protecting the island from large waves makes Saipan's beaches quiet and calm. There is also no industrial manufacturing factories on the island, which makes everything here beautiful like heaven," reads a rough English translation of the segment "Pure Experience on Saipan."

"Endless Fun on Saipan," meanwhile, encourages tourists to put on their swimwear to either sunbathe or swim. It says the island is not only about beach resorts, as a high-end shopping experience also awaits tourists. Shopaholics can find everything on Saipan, the article states, from local handmade-soap to top signature brands of the world.

On "Saipan Makes Your Love Perfect," the author wrote that the word "romantic" will always be connected to the island.

"Especially in a place like Saipan, when you see the crystal clear water show a magical hue under the refraction of sunlight, you will surely want to share the experience with your significant other."

The article's "Under the Sea" portion said that people on Saipan take really take good care of their environment, especially the sea. "Don't leave anything but bubbles; don't take anything but photos," the author reminded readers.

"Extreme Saipan" says that tourists can choose from a number of hotels on Saipan and eating out is no problem with the island's plethora of restaurants, especially Japanese cuisine.

"Apart from enjoying the beautiful scenery and delicious food, one should order a nice cocktail and sip lazily and taste the cool and refreshing beverage," the author adds.

The article also had a feature on Saipan's well-known Grotto dive site and Forbidden Island.

"Blue Grotto is a natural rock cave eroded by seawater and wind. There are three holes that lead to the Pacific Ocean. One can only proceed to the diving activity with a guide."

Aside from featuring it on the cover of its May issue, *World Traveler* also developed a CNMI app video, which provides basic Saipan travel information to tourists. It is accessible via iPhone, iTouch, and iPad. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

Tourism Topics

A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority

Tourism is everybody's business.

China Outbound Travel & Tourism Market

On April 9-12, 2013, the **Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA)** participated in the **China Outbound Travel & Tourism Market (COTTM)** in Beijing, China.

COTTM was held to educate key client managers and produce manager of HH Travel about tourism opportunites in the Northern Marianas and resources available for MICE (Meetings Incentives Conferencing Exphibitions) travel. The trade show also served to introduce and update flight information on the Beijing to Saipan route and to provide promotion material and detailed destination einformation.

COTTM is the industry's most important annual China platform where professionals conduct business and learn about trends and development. The MVA's Beijing team joined the U.S. pavilion at the event.

As for March 2013, visitor arrivals from China to the Northern Marianas are up 37 percent to 51,404 as compared to the same period last fiscal year.

Paid for with a federal grant from the Office of Insular Affairs.

Saipan Tinian Rota

HAFA ADAI & TIROW WAY

Local

US House panel OKs giving $32.5M for NMI food stamp

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The U.S. House Agriculture Committee approved on Wednesday a national farm policy bill that includes $32.5 million in total funding for the CNMI for a two-year feasibility study and then a three-year pilot program to bring the islands into the national food stamp program.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) said a provision in H.R. 1947 provides the same funding level for the CNMI's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, as in last year's bill.

Sablan said he is "most grateful" for members maintaining the same funding level for the CNMI "despite trimming $4 billion from food stamps overall."

"Right now, NMI recipients only get half the food stamp benefit of people on Guam, which is part of SNAP," he said.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos, in an interview on Saturday, said he's glad that the bill is taking traction and "hopes" that the measure "makes its way through."

In a March 28 letter, Inos formally supported Sablan's request to include the CNMI in the national food stamp program.

"I'm in full support of that. At this time when the economy is still not fully improved, we need every assistance from the federal government. This is very important for our people, who have not been able to be gainfully employed and are in real need of assistance," he told Saipan Tribune.

Section 4030 of H.R. 1947 funds a two-year study to determine the CNMI's capabilities in operating a food stamp program in the same manner it is operated in the U.S.

The study funding is up to $1 million each in fiscal years 2014 and 2015.

Under the bill, if the study is favorable to the CNMI, a pilot program will be funded and carried out. These include the federal costs for providing technical assistance to the CNMI, authorizing and monitoring retail food stores, and assessing pilot operations.

The CNMI is to receive $13.5 million for the pilot program in fiscal year 2016.

It will receive $8.5 million for the same program in each of fiscal years 2017 and 2018. Overall, the funding for the CNMI under the bill is $32.5 million.

Sablan said the bill never

See FOOD STAMP on Next Page

Mariner rescued near Christmas Island

HONOLULU—A mariner in distress was rescued by a container vessel in the North Pacific at 9pm Monday last week.

The crew aboard the container vessel *Kota Wangi* rescued a 58-year-old Australian mariner aboard the sailing vessel *Folly II*. The mariner was in good condition and was transiting from California to Christmas Island, in the Republic of Kiribati, when the vessel's autopilot reportedly failed.

After manually navigating the vessel for four weeks, he had become too fatigued to continue.

Watchstanders in Coast Guard Joint Rescue Coordination Center Honolulu received notification of the distress from a Personal Locator Beacon at approximately 6:11am Monday.

An HC-130 Hercules airplane crew from Air Station Barbers Point was launched and established communications with the mariner. A second Hercules was launched at 5pm Monday to provide cover during the rescue.

The *Kota Wangi* is registered with the Automated Mutual-Assistance Vessel Rescue System, a network of ships whose crews volunteer to assist with rescue on the seas, helping to extend the Coast Guard's reach in cases outside the immediate reach of response assets. ***(USCG)***

AFTER HEARING TEACHERS' STORIES ACROSS THE U.S.

Loken says he's lucky to be an NMI educator

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Despite funding challenges faced by the islands' public schools, PSS Teacher of the Year Peter B. Loken feels lucky that he is an educator in this Commonwealth, a place where appreciation and respect are given to classroom teachers.

Loken disclosed this to *Saipan Tribune* Thursday, sharing his experiences at the recent gathering of 58 Teacher of the Year awardees from across the nation in Washington, D.C.

"After several discussions with my fellow TOYs [Teacher of the Year awardees], I was struck by how lucky I am to be a teacher in the CNMI. I heard stories about disrespectful and ungrateful parents, legislative persons who were working to dismantle teacher organizations, and community members who look down on the teaching profession and who are convinced that the education system in our nation is failing," he said.

Loken feels blessed because this was not the experience he had on the islands.

Unlike in other states, Loken said that students' and teachers' successes in the CNMI can be seen in the media headlines, with legislative members supporting education and are open to ideas about how they can continue helping students succeed, and parents and community members of the island appreciate the hard work and long hours that teachers in the CNMI put in daily.

These, he said, are the unique qualities of the Northern Marianas.

For Loken, community members have the extraordinary opportunity to voice opinions and see real results from these efforts, compared to many places in the states. Teachers, parents, and active citizens, he said, all have the ability to reach out to their lawmakers and share their concerns, hopes, and visions for the future with the peace of mind that each of their ideas are given thoughtful consideration.

"I feel lucky that I am able to sit down with our representatives and have meaningful conversations, something all of us have the chance to do, but is often more difficult in places other than the CNMI," he said.

According to Loken, meeting President Barrack Obama in person was a great honor. The gathering for TOYs is a traditional event hosted by the President.

"It truly was an honor to meet the President of the United States, especially as a representative of the CNMI. President Obama was both gracious and charismatic when I spoke to him and he acknowledged the distance I had traveled and thanked me for all the things that my fellow teachers and I have done for our students in the CNMI," he said.

When asked about the greatest lessons he learned from the experience, Loken cited two: "I learned from this experience to take opportunities when you have them, and to prepare as much as you can for those opportunities. New experiences are a chance to learn, grow, and share with others, so I want to seize them when they present themselves."

Loken is a sixth-grade classroom teacher at Garapan Elementary School since 2007. He obtained his bachelor's degree in psychology in Minnesota and moved to Saipan to join the public school's teaching workforce. He acquired his master's degree in education last year from the Framingham State University.

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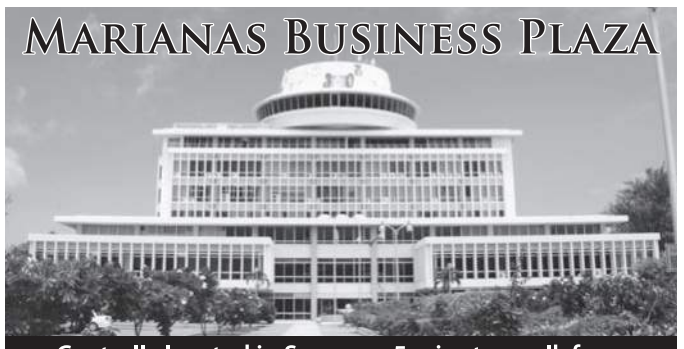

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High court asked to stop proceedings vs Ogumoro, others

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Office of the Attorney General has asked the CNMI Supreme Court to order the Superior Court to stop the criminal actions filed against former Department of Public Safety deputy commissioner Ambrosio Ogumoro and others related to an alleged conspiracy to shield former attorney general Edward T. Buckingham from being served a penal summons in August last year.

Attorney General Joey P. San Nicolas and assistant attorney general Charles E. Brasington also asked the high court to issue a writ of mandamus requiring the Superior Court to hold a hearing on the Office of the Public Auditor's motion to disqualify the OAG from prosecuting the case.

San Nicolas and Brasington, however, clarified that their request excludes the case filed against former governor Benigno R. Fitial and Buckingham since OPA, not the OAG, prosecutes criminal cases against the governor, lieutenant governor, and AG.

The OAG filed on May 10, 2013, a petition for a writ of mandamus or prohibition as it questioned the constitutionality of Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman's order disqualifying the entire OAG from the case without notice or opportunity to respond.

Last week, May 15, CNMI Supreme Court Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro acted on the OAG petition by ordering OPA legal counsel George L. Hasselback to respond to the petition no later than May 28, 2013. Castro gave the OAG no later than June 3, 2013, to reply to Hasselback's response.

In the petition, San Nicolas and Brasington argue that Wiseman's order was "clearly erroneous" as proceeding with the disqualification motion without first providing then-acting AG Viola Alepuyo or the OAG notice and an opportunity to be heard violates the Office's and the AG's right to due process.

Second, while the Superior Court has some degree of inherent authority to appoint a special prosecutor, that power is more limited than the power purportedly exercised by the Superior Court, said San Nicolas and Brasington.

According to court papers, Hasselback filed an *ex parte* petition on Aug. 13, 2012, for his appointment as special prosecutor.

On Aug. 17, 2012, Wiseman granted Hasselback's petition, ruling that the court has the inherent authority to appoint a special prosecutor when the OAG is "disqualified because of a conflict of interest or by some other means."

Wiseman disqualified the OAG because of the OAG Civil Division chief's representation of Buckingham on Aug. 6, 2012.

Wiseman appointed Hasselback as special prosecutor, with duties "limited to the investigation and prosecution of matters or persons that are connected or relevant to the charges filed in the Buckingham case."

LETTER

From Page 1

bringing back Buckingham to face the charges that the Office of the Public Auditor filed against him could amount to $15,000.

"That [cost] is still a concern but we've essentially agreed that this has to be funded jointly between OPA and the administration. We have to fund it. It's part of the cost of justice, to go through this," Inos told *Saipan Tribune* at the Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival on Saturday night.

Should the process succeed, the U.S. Marshals Service will have to bring Buckingham over to the CNMI, and the CNMI will reimburse the federal agency for the costs it incurred in doing so, he added.

Inos is so far believed to be the only CNMI governor to write letters requesting extradition of a former attorney general.

"I don't know if that's good or bad but it's just one of those things. They come with the territory. We got to do what we got to do. Nothing personal, it's just the job," the governor added.

Inos signed the extradition letter a few hours after Buckingham appeared before Colorado County Court Judge K.J. Moore, who advised him of his rights and why he was being held.

Buckingham posted a $25,000 bond. His next hearing is set for June 10.

'No one is above the law'

Sen. Pete Reyes (IR-Saipan) said yesterday that if what Buckingham did is "done by anyone in the community that is politically unconnected, an orange uniform would have already been issued."

"So am I glad he is being extradited? You bet I am. I can't wait to finally see justice is served," Reyes said.

Reyes said it has taken this long to see that Buckingham will "finally be brought back to face charges filed against him."

"A message should go out that he is not above the law," the senator added.

Back in December, private citizens and lawmakers, including Reyes, said they will donate funds to help cover the cost of extraditing Buckingham But later on, the then Fitial administration said there's no need to raise funds from private citizens and lawmakers.

'Fleeing from justice'

Inos, in his one-page letter to his Colorado counterpart, said that Buckingham "stands charged with use of public supplies, services, time and personnel for campaign activities, use of name of a government department or agency to campaign and/or express support for a candidate running for public office, failure to produce documents or information, obstructing justice: interference with service of process, theft of services, conspiracy to commit theft of services, and misconduct in public office."

Inos said that Buckingham "fled from justice of the Commonwealth, and has taken refuge and is now to be found in the State of Colorado."

"…I do hereby respectfully demand that the above-named fugitive from justice be arrested and secured and delivered into the custody of the United States Marshals Service as agent(s) hereby authorized to receive, convey and transport said fugitive to the Commonwealth, here to be dealt with according to law," Inos said in his May 17 letter to Hickenlooper.

This is the second Buckingham extradition request letter that Inos signed since becoming governor.

The first one was signed on Feb. 27, addressed to Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad. At the time, Buckingham was believed to be in Iowa.

But Inos clarified on Saturday that the first extradition request letter was not served because Buckingham was not in Iowa at the time.

"It wasn't served because he wasn't there [Iowa]. Apparently, he's in Colorado," Inos said.

The governor added that immediately after he signed the second extradition request letter on Friday, it was handed to OPA legal counsel George Hasselback.

Buckingham is facing criminal charges in connection with his alleged hosting of a political campaign in 2010 for former governor Benigno R. Fitial's then delegate candidate; obstruction of justice in August 2012 when he allegedly used police and ports police officers to shield him from being served a penal summons; approval of a sole-source ARRA management contract; and approval of a no-bid, $190.8-million diesel power purchase agreement, among other things.

'Wishing Fitial well'

Meanwhile, Inos said he also learned that former governor Benigno R. Fitial just recently had surgery in the Philippines.

"I hope that he recovers well so that hopefully he can come home and attend to his personal issues," Inos told *Saipan Tribune*.

Multiple sources confirmed last week that Fitial is recuperating from gall bladder surgery at St. Luke's Medical Center-Global City.

Fitial is also facing charges filed by OPA for his role in an alleged conspiracy to shield Buckingham from being served a penal summons in August 2012.

OPA's Hasselback is asking the court to quash a penal summons on Fitial and re-issue a previously signed arrest warrant for the former governor's arrest so that the prosecution of the case may proceed.

On Saturday, Inos said this decision "is strictly out of the OPA."

Fitial is not only the first CNMI governor to resign but is also the first one to be impeached by the House of Representatives. He stepped down on Feb. 20, 2013, just days before the start of his impeachment trial at the Senate. The House of Representatives impeached him on 18 charges of corruption, commission of felony, and neglect of duty.

SOLDIERS

From Page 1

The explosion claimed 15 lives, six of them Americans, including Flores and Aguon. The other four Americans killed were civilian contractors.

There's no word yet whether any of the newly deployed soldiers from the CNMI were also hurt in the attack.

"We have not received any word that any of our troops, members from Saipan (CNMI), have been casualty. We feel for the family of those who died in this particular incident," Inos told *Saipan Tribune* at the Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival Saturday night.

Senate floor leader Ray Yumul (IR-Saipan), who served in Iraq in October 2004 to January 2006, said yesterday his prayers go out to the families of the soldiers killed in action.

"Sgt. Aguon and Spc. Flores' ultimate sacrifice defending our country and providing freedom for the people of Afghanistan will never be forgotten," he said.

Yumul served with two soldiers from the CNMI who were killed on Oct. 31, 2005, during a patrol mission in Balad, Iraq.

The Guam governor, in a statement, asked for the prayers of every Guamanian for Aguon and Flores' families and friends.

"There are no words to describe the overwhelming grief of our island on this tragic day. May the Lord be with their parents and loved ones to give them strength," Calvo said.

Aguon and Flores were part of a group of about 600 soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment who left Guam in early March for training at Camp Shelby in Mississippi before deploying to Afghanistan in April.

Of the estimated 600 soldiers, 16 are from the CNMI. The deployment lasts about a year.

Capt. Ken Ola of the Guam Guard said yesterday the "Guam Guard or anyone in the military cannot comment on the incident or anything related to it until the Office of the Secretary of Defense issues an official release about the incident."

Guam Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo, in a statement, said she is "deeply saddened" by the loss of Aguon and Flores.

"These brave men made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom and for our entire nation while serving in Afghanistan. We will be forever grateful for their service. My heart goes out to their family and friends, and I ask that our island community surround them with prayers and sympathy during this difficult time. This is a very sad day for our island," she said.

On April 12, dozens of family members of the 16 soldiers from the CNMI, along with the governor and other officials and community members, gathered for an evening of prayer and support for their loved ones about to go to Afghanistan.

They are part of the largest deployment of troops for the Guam Army National Guard since its inception in 1981.

TREE

From Page 1

left upper chest. The two were about to board their cars when the branch fell.

Mckenzie's Kia Rio car sustained extensive damage as its front windshield and windows were shattered and the roof was dented. Siruma's Mazda 3, which was parked beside Mckenzie's car, only had minor scratches.

Two other parked vehicles—a Toyota Echo and Isuzu—sustained moderate to extensive damage on the roof and body parts. It was not immediately clear if the owners of the two vehicles were customers or employees of Saipan Bowling Center/J's Restaurant.

A portion of the restaurant's roof at the main entrance was also damaged.

Mckenzie said that she and Siruma had just come from the restaurant and were walking to their vehicles on the parking lot when they saw the branch falling in their direction. The two managed to run away but the end of the smaller branches still hit Mckenzie in the head.

Mckenzie said she felt dizzy and started shaking She went back inside the restaurant to drink water. With the help of the restaurant's staff and Siruma, she put ice on her head. Medics later responded and attended to Mckenzie.

Mckenzie and Siruma said they did not see if it was gusty at the time.

Juan S. Tenorio, owner of Saipan Bowling Center/J's Restaurant, rushed to the scene after learning about the accident. He said it is still fortunate that no one suffered serious injuries.

Tenorio said that everything inside and outside the establishment is covered by their insurance. He noted that the fallen branch was rotten, with termites already eating through the trunk.

He said the tree is over 50 years old and that he believes it should either be trimmed or "it's time for it to go."

Frances Camacho, manager of Saipan Bowling Center/J's Restaurant, said she was inside the establishment when the accident happened. She said she came out to make sure that no other person was injured.

Camacho said it was the first time for such an accident to happen at J's.

Employees of J's Restaurant immediately began trimming the tree's branches on Friday. Police officers also came to investigate.

Last March, Saipan Mayor Donald G. Flores disclosed that the Mayor's Office will work closely with the CNMI Forestry under the Department of Lands and Natural Resources to address the issue of rotting trees on island.

Flores said he wrote to the Saipan and Northern Islands Delegation to underscore the need to buy a bucket truck worth $40,000. He even attached in the letter photos of the flame tree that fell close to the Borja Funeral Home along Beach Road.

"We don't want to wait until something bad happens to someone. $40,000 is nothing compared to having someone get hurt because of these rotting trees," the mayor said.

Agriculture consultant Sid Cabrera earlier said that fungal disease has been a problem with flame trees in the CNMI.

FOOD STAMP

From Page 3

came to the U.S. House floor in the last Congress "because of election year politics."

But he said Agriculture Committee chair Frank Lucas (Oklahoma) and ranking member Collin Peterson (Minnesota) cut the cost of the farm bill and are pushing for a vote.

"Despite trimming $4 billion from food stamps overall, Lucas and Peterson left the NMI SNAP provision at the same funding level as in last year's bill—for which I am most grateful. Including the Northern Marianas in the national food stamp program will put more money in our local economy, create jobs, increase local tax revenues, and, most importantly, put food on the table for hungry families," he said.

The former administration strongly opposed for years the CNMI's inclusion in the SNAP, despite studies showing that SNAP will add $12 million to $24 million into the local economy compared to the current food stamp assistance block grant program.

Under SNAP, beneficiaries would get more in food stamp benefits compared to the current assistance block grant that the CNMI negotiates annually with the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

THC's Arley Long named National State Excellence awardee

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A longtime nurse practitioner at the Tinian Health Center has been named a recipient of the prestigious National State Excellence Award.

Arley Long was chosen by the American Association of Nurse Practitioners to receive the honor for demonstrating commitment to her profession and for her valuable contributions to healthcare delivery

Long

The association selects the recipients of its AANP State Awards for Excellence every year.

The State Award for Nurse Practitioner Excellence was founded in 1991 and recognizes a nurse practitioner in a state who demonstrates excellence in practice and makes a significant contribution toward increasing the awareness and acceptance of nurse practitioners in health care.

Originally from California, Long is a highly credentialed and licensed Family Nurse Practitioner in California, Guam and the CNMI. As a two-program graduate of the Harbor UCLA Nurse Practitioner Program, she is nationally certified as a Women's Health Nurse Practitioner and certified as a Family Nurse Practitioner. Long has also been in practice as a registered nurse for over 20 years and has been in practice as a nurse practitioner for over 13 years.

Long was recognized for her efforts in lobbying the CNMI Legislature to amend the Nurse Practice Act, which led to the CNMI finally matching other U.S. states in the defined scope of practice for Advance Practice Registered Nurses, or APRNs. The amendments and the law's subsequent passage allowed independent practice to APRNs, which in turn provided significant personnel cost savings for the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

She is also credited with the establishment of a nurse exchange program with Japan, implementing public health programs on Tinian such as family planning, teen clinic, HIV/STD, infectious control, chest clinic, women's health, breast and cervical screening program, and the Wise Women Project.

Long will be honored during the American Association of Nurse Practitioners 2013 National Conference in Las Vegas on June 19 to 23, 2013.

"I'm truly honored and thankful to have received this [award]…I share this award with the rest of the hardworking and dedicated APRN's in the CNMI. Advanced practice registered nurses, such as nurse practitioners are important and valuable contributors to health care and provide an economical medical solution to the ever changing and challenging healthcare system in the CNMI. My only wish is that I could have brought all of the APRNs in the CNMI with me to Las Vegas to receive the award as we are all deserving of such an award," said Long in an article published by the American Association of Nurse Practitioners.

PH labor attaché for CNMI done deal

While a Philippine labor attaché assigned to the CNMI is already a done deal, the Philippine Consulate General in Guam is still awaiting word from Manila whether the islands will again have a representative from the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration.

Consul Edgar Tomas Q. Auxilian told *Saipan Tribune* that a lot of Filipino contract workers have been asking for the Department of Labor to reinstate an OWWA representative for the CNMI.

"Since we assumed jurisdiction in the CNMI we see the need for OWWA representation not only here in the Commonwealth but also in Guam. On behalf of Consul General [Bayani] Mangibin we already forwarded a request to Manila for an OWWA representative," he said. "When I [return] to Guam, we will sit down again and discuss the matter and decide if there's a need to send another reiteration to the Department of Foreign Affairs to follow up with Labor and OWWA on our request."

Auxilian, however, assured that even though the CNMI still has no OWWA representative, the Philippine Consulate in Agana has not been remiss on its duties to serve Filipinos on the islands.

"Even though we have no OWWA or labor representative here in the CNMI, the Guam consulate immediately forwards requests from contract workers in the CNMI to DFA and its Office of Migrants Workers Affairs and they coordinate with Labor or OWWA depending on the needs. Most of the time its OWWA matters so if there's a request for repatriation (like the case of Marwin Corpuz), we always forward it to Manila."

OWWA is a Philippine government agency that promotes the welfare and well-being of Filipino alien workers.

OWWA renewals

As far as renewals are concerned, Auxilian said under the present guidelines of the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration, Filipinos in the CNMI can still renew their OWWA membership with the help of relatives back home in the Philippines.

It, however, could be difficult at times.

"The only problem that we've heard is that relatives back home don't actually remit their dues. Our only advise to our *kababayans* (countrymen) is to request for their family back home to remit OWWA dues since at the end of the day it's their family back home who benefits from this."

For this to happen, Filipinos in the CNMI will need a certificate of employment that is authenticated by the Philippine Consulate in Guam, which would entail sending the documents to Guam, which would take time.

"The easiest way is when they go home to the Philippines they can bring their contracts with them and then pay OWWA dues directly at OWWA," he said. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

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AUCTION NOTICE

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC), as auctioneer and seller, hereby gives notice that all the rights, title and interests of NMHC in and to the following described real property will be sold at auction:

LOT NO.: 017 D 27 JUDGE WAY, GARAPAN MINIMUM BID: $ 56, 800.00

The auction will be open to the general public and will be held at NMHC's conference room, Garapan, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, June 21, 2013, subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. Minimum Bid. The minimum acceptable bid for each property shall be $56,800.00.
2. Reserve. The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
3. Rights and Duties of NMHC as Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, NMHC shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
   a. To withdraw any property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
   b. To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c. To reject any and all bids.
4. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Mr. Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director, NMHC, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950; Telephone: 234-6866; Facisimile: 234-9021; or to Law Office of F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
5. Deposit; Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale by cash, cashier's check or credit card (Visa or Mastercard). The remaining balance will be due within three (3) calendar days of the auction sale. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within three (3) calendar days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will automatically revert to NMHC.
6. Change of Terms. NMHC reserves the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
7. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. The interests of NMHC in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property or any related documents will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.
8. Lease with Option to Purchase. NMHC gives notice that it will also consider bids or offers to lease the property, subject to the following additional terms and conditions:
   a. The Lease Price bid shall not be less than the listed Minimum Bid price.
   b. An up-front payment of ten percent (10%) of the Lease Price must be paid upon award by cash, cashier's check or credit card (Visa or Mastercard).
   c. The balance of the Lease Price shall accrue interest at six percent (6%) per annum.
   d. Monthly payments of the Lease will be considered rental payments only and not installments toward purchase and shall not grant the lessee any equity or ownership interest in the property or be construed in any way to encumber NMHC's rights, title and interest in the property beyond the granting of a lease for a specific term of years.
   e. Maximum acceptable Lease term shall be thirty (30) years.
   f. A lease agreement will be given upon receipt of the up-front payment and shall include:
      i. No alterations or improvements without the prior written consent of NMHC.
      ii. Lessee to insure property and improvements during the Lease term.
      iii. Lessee responsible for all utilities and other charges associated with the property.
      iv. Lease not to be assigned or mortgaged without prior written consent of NMHC.
      v. Failure to make a monthly payment grounds for termination and eviction.
      vi. Lease may, at the request of lessee, contain an Option to Purchase provision exercisable upon: (A) payment in full of the Lease Price; (B) the Lease not having been declared to be in default; and (C) payment of $100.00 option consideration. If the option is properly exercised, a quitclaim deed will be given.
   g. In the event of competing lease bids, greater weight will be given to the leasehold offer with the better price, shorter term and larger monthly payments.

Dated this 17 day of May, 2013.

/s/Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-13-020

DESIGN-BUILD RENOVATION OF CUC WAREHOUSE OFFICE AND STORAGE FACILITY

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms for the Design-Build Renovation of CUC Warehouse Office and Storage Facility of the Commonwealth Utilities, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The selected A&E and Construction firm shall perform design and construction services for the renovation of the CUC Warehouse in Lower Base, Saipan. The firm must have experience on past design-build projects particularly on the island of Saipan.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **180 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

The RFP package may be obtained upon receipt of a non-refundable deposit from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 for one set from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on **May 9, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-RFP-13-020, Design-Build Renovation of CUC Warehouse Office and Storage Facility, Saipan"*, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **May 28, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

Statements of Qualifications will be evaluated, pre-qualified and selected based on the following criteria:

1. Familiarity and understanding of the CUC Warehouse staff daily activities
2. Qualifications and Experience of the A&E and the Contractor
   - Proposed Methodology and Project Approach with Milestone Schedule
   - Proposed Staffing and Experience
   - List and Performance Recommendation on similar contracts, including the timeliness of the firms in meeting contract deadlines
   - Present Workload and Availability

Proposers are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This Request for Proposal and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations ss 50-50-301 & 305, Procurement of Construction and Architect-Engineering Services.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 13, 2013** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - manny.sablan@cucgov.org. with a copy to John Mafnas, CUC Warehouse Manager, via email john.mafnas@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if to do so shall be in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

Joint panel OKs compromise civil service bill

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A joint Senate and House of Representatives panel recommends passage of a compromise version of a civil service bill that addresses Public Law 17-80's unintended consequence on the government employment of dozens of individuals with "special and unique" skills and expertise.

The six-member Conference Committee on Senate Bill 18-18, Senate Substitute 1, House Draft 1 signed off on the report on Friday.

The bill is now up for the action by the full House and Senate.

The conferees discussed the House amendment and concluded that the amendment that deleted a portion of the bill's language "did not significantly change the intent of the bill."

However, the conferees agreed to a minor amendment.

The panel also agreed to the deletion of the phrase "including attorneys" in the bill's findings and purpose section.

The conferees met on May 15, along with Attorney General Joey Patrick San Nicolas and assistant attorney general Ghasan Harb.

The conferees agreed that the deletion of 1 CMC 8131 (a)(2) when PL 17-80 became effective presented problems because the authority that allowed the director of personnel management to approve and certify numerous positions already occupied by employees and have started working was removed.

They were concerned that reenacting the "special and unique" provision may bring back the past hiring abuses that PL 17-80 intended to eliminate.

Along with other lawmakers, community members and other stakeholders, the conferees agreed that the legislation should eliminate hiring abuses, "most especially unqualified political hires, under the guise of 'special and unique' skills and qualifications."

The conferees also made clear that the practice of authorizing newly hired employees to commence working prior to the completion and execution of all required documents has to stop.

Such was the case for former Department of Community and Cultural Affairs secretary Melvin Faisao, who started working at the Office of Grants Management without all required papers. Faisao later stopped working at the office.

The conferees also agreed that all vacancies must be advertised so that the opportunity to apply and compete is accorded to interested and qualified individuals.

The three House conferees are Reps. Tony Sablan (IR-Saipan), chairman, and members Ray Tebuteb (IR-Saipan) and Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan).

The Senate conferees are chairman Senate floor leader Ray Yumul (IR-Saipan) and members Sens. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian) and Pete Reyes (IR-Saipan). Yumul is author of SB 18-18.

The conferees agreed that the bill does not in any way "grandfathers" those employees supposedly hired under the "special and unique" provision.

In the conference committee report, the conferees said the AG assured them that each of the affected positions will be scrutinized to determine whether the positions fall within the "special and unique" provisions.

The conferees also reviewed and considered Civil Service Commission chair Herman Deleon Guerrero's May 15 letter, which noted that the commission will establish the definition of "special and unique" by regulation.

Deleon Guerrero said procedural safeguards will exclude political hires from the "special and unique" position exemption, and that the Office of the Attorney General must review each excepted service contract to ensure its legality.

Based on a list that the OAG provided lawmakers, 66 individuals' employment status was placed in limbo when PL 17-80 was enacted last year. Some employment contracts could not be renewed while others have difficulty getting compensated as a result of the law.

PL 17-80 moved the Office of Personnel Management back to the Civil Service Commission.

LAND ASSIGNMENT

1. **LAND AND BUILDING ASSIGNMENT:** PICTURE ABOVE WITH POKER BUSINESS AND FORMER PIC LAUNDRY
   LAND AREA: 757 SQ.M
   LOCATED AT SAN ANTONIO ACROSS PAKPAK BEACH NEAR PIC HOTEL AND PIC STAFF BARRACKS
2. **LAND AND BUILDING ASSIGNMENT:**
   WITH 3 COMMERCIAL UNITS AND HOUSE
   ALL UNITS WITH TENANT
   LAND AREA: 697 SQ. M
   LOCATED AT BEACH ROAD GARAPAN NEXT TO CENTURY INSURANCE BUILDING AND SAIPAN TRIBUNE
3. **LAND ASSIGNMENT:** CONSIST OF 2 LOTS
   LAND AREA: LAND (A): 737 SQ.M **LAND (B):** 779 SQ.M
   LAND AND BUILDING ASSIGNMENT
   LOCATED ACROSS 13TH FISHERMAN MONUMENT AND NEXT TO MARAIANAS EYE CLINIC
4. **LAND AND BUILDING ASSIGNMENT:** CONSIST OF 2 LOTS WITH 4 COMMERCIAL UNIT, FORMERLY NIKO LAUNDRY AND NIKO MARKET
   AND 3 RESIDENTIAL UNITS
   LAND AREA: LAND (A) 1124 SQ.M, **LAND (B)** 1111 SQ. M
   LOCATED AT SAN ROQUE BEFORE PALM RESORT AND FORMER LA FIESTA
5. **LAND AND HOUSE ASSIGNMENT**
   LAND AREA: 5,000 SQ. M
   LOCATED AT DANDAN NEAR DANDAN GOLF RANGE
6. **LAND AND BUILDING ASSIGNMENT**
   LAND AREA: 972 SQ.M
   LOCATED AT KOBLERVILLE NEXT TO ST. JUDE CHURCH AND CYA STORE
7. **HOUSE FOR RENT:**
   1. STUDIO TYPE WITH RESTROOM & KITCHEN:$200/MO
   2. (2) BEDROOM HOUSE WITH RESTROOM & SPACIOUS SALA: $300/MO
   * UTILITIES NOT INCLUDED
   LOCATED IN SAN ROQUE

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL EMER AT 234-1818 OR 287-0693

TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION
Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
Commonwealth
of the Northern Marina Islands

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) hereby gives notice that it will hold a Special Meeting on Tuesday, May 21, 2013, at 1:00 p.m. at the TCGCC Conference room.

AGENDA

- **I. Preliminary**
  - a) Call to Order
  - b) Roll Call
  - c) Adoption of Agenda
- **II. New Business**
  - a) TDHC Employee License Applications
  - b) Rebate Program
- **III. Executive Session**
- **IV. Administrative Matter**
- **V. Adjournment**

(The Commission, pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, may vote to meet in executive session to consult Legal Counsel and/or discuss personnel matters.)

Isabella, Michael are top baby names in U.S. territories

The Social Security Administration announced last week the most popular baby names in the U.S. territories for 2012. Isabella and Michael topped the list.

The top five boys and girls names for 2012 in the U.S. territories were: For boys, Michael, Daniel, Ethan, Aiden, and Logan. For girls, it is Isabella, Amaya, Chloe, Elizabeth, and Khloe.

Carolyn W. Colvin, acting Commissioner of Social Security, said last week that Sophia and Jacob were the most popular baby names in the U.S. How does the U.S. territories compare to the rest of the country? Check out Social Security's website—www.socialsecurity.gov/OACT/babynames—to see the top baby names for 2012.

Social Security's website has the top-rated online services in the U.S., including the services available with a *my Social Security* account, a personalized online account that people can use beginning in their working years and continuing throughout the time they receive Social Security benefits.

In addition to each state's top baby names, Social Security's website has a list of the 1,000 most popular boys' and girls' names for 2012 and offers lists of baby names for each year since 1880.

To read about this year's winner for the biggest jump in popularity and to see how pop culture affects baby names, go to www.socialsecurity.gov/pressoffice/pr/babynames2012-pr.html. ***(SSA)***

Tenorio questions authority of board to decide for CHCC

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Former governor Froilan Tenorio questioned Friday the authority of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s advisory board to make decision for the organization, saying that that authority lies with the corporation's chief executive officer.

Tenorio, who appeared before the board in an informal discussion Friday afternoon, pointed out that despite the clear mandate of the law about the board's advisory authority, there have been CEO decisions that have been defeated by the board.

"I have been curious to know how a board of this nature is conducting when all of you [trustees] is strictly an adviser to the CEO?" asked Tenorio, who is also a former lawmaker.

He said his visit was prompted by his desire to see a well-functioning public hospital.

According to board vice chair Pedro Dela Cruz, the present CHCC board, although advisory, has the full authority to make decisions for the corporation such as when it decided to fire the CEO. Dela Cruz said that all board decision are "collective actions" by all members.

Tenorio argued that the law that created the corporation needs to be repealed in order to transform the board's advisory function into a governing one. He encouraged the board to push through with a proposed amendment to make it happen for the corporation.

This early, CHCC board chair Joaquin Torres told Tenorio that the issue is not a priority right now; the hospital's certification with the Medicare is.

Tenorio also expressed his desire to see the public hospital be privatized or have a turnaround management take charge of its operation.

"My opinion on how to manage the hospital is to privatize it. Turned it over to another company who has the experience in handling hospitals. So my suggestion is to hire CEO and then the CEO can get a management with experience to operate this hospital," added Tenorio.

MONETH G. DEPOSA

Former governor Froilan Tenorio, right, discusses with the board Friday his concerns with the CHCC advisory board during Friday's meeting while vice chair Pete Dela Cruz, standing right, and board counsel Allen Hazlip listen.

This is, however, an idea that the federal government does not currently support, according to the hospital's federal consultant, Dr. Poki Stewart Namkung.

"The federal government is not interested in privatizing this hospital," said Namkung, who disclosed that major funds for the hospital will be gone once the facility is privatized.

Namkung was sent by federal health agencies for a six-week consultancy work in the CNMI to support the hospital's efforts in meeting the conditions of participation with the Medicare.

Extra pay for hospital DMA eyed

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Due to the amount of work performed beyond the scope of a physician's usual responsibilities, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. board wants to provide extra compensation to whoever is the hospital's director for Medical Affairs.

Corporation board chair Joaquin Torres told *Saipan Tribune* that an additional pay ranging between $5,000 and $15,000 for the post is a reasonable amount to compensate the extra work being done by a DMA at the public hospital.

Since 2011, the public hospital has had a fast turnover rate for its DMA position. The post used to be occupied by Drs. Richard Brostrom, Shirish Balachandra, Michael Deary, and Jeremy Richards. The post is now occupied by Dr. Sherleen Osman.

Besides the extra pay, the board would also like a new selection process for the DMA, Torres said. The usual practice is by direct appointment by the CEO.

Torres said a new director for Medical Affairs must now come at the recommendation of the hospital's medical staff to make sure the chosen individual will articulate the true voice and concern of physicians.

"The medical staff is the critical component of the hospital and we want them to fully participate on the affairs of the corporation through their DMA," said Torres, adding that this approach is seen as more effective in addressing issues and concerns that the medical staff may have.

Based on Public Law 16-51, which established the healthcare corporation and its advisory board, the DMA is a member of the board of trustees and is appointed by the CEO. In seeking the medical staff's recommendation for DMA, Torres said this will not conflict with the statute as the staff recommendee will still formally be appointed by the CEO.

Torres said the corporation needs to find a DMA who is not bogged down with his or her clinical work because the DMA job will also require more time.

The current DMA, Osman, is on medical leave. Despite her hectic schedule in running the dialysis unit, she accepted the DMA position without extra pay in order for the hospital to be able to comply with federal requirements.

Because the DMA is also considered a full-time job, Torres said it's only fair and proper to provide additional compensation for the job.

Typically reporting to the CEO of a hospital, the DMA provides a mission and strategic guidance for all medical programs within the organization and ensures that all medical staff is abreast of every initiative and procedure. The director also works with other department heads to design new programs to better serve patients and oversees performance reviews. This director serves as the management's direct link to the medical staff of the hospital.

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KIA
The Power to Surprise

Canadian comic leaves Saipan crowd in stitches

Side-splitting laughter and guffaws were the order of day in last Saturday's "LMAO Comedy Blowout Featuring Ron Josol" held at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

Canadian comic Ron Josol and his opening act, local standup comedian Chynaman, gave everyone in attendance a night they wouldn't forget by bravely trading on racial stereotypes—mostly Pinoys—with Josol using his personal life as fodder for his many jokes.

Josol started with rapid-fires jokes about growing up in Canada the son of Filipino immigrants. He said he was the odd-man out in school, with his thick Filipino accent that mispronounced the letters "b," "v," "f," and "p."

He joked that he blames his father for his early struggles with English and recalled an incident in his youth when his dad went to a McDonald's drive-through and ordered "Prench pries" and asked for utensils by asking for "pork."

He said he's not surprised that no Filipino has ever made it to the sportscasting scene, especially doing play-by-play for the National Hockey League. Josol said Filipinos' propensity for mixing "ps" and "fs" while enunciating "puck" in an NHL game would surely draw the ire of sensors.

He said he once made $100 during his elementary years when he pretended that the *balut* (cooked duck embryo) he brought for lunch fell from a tree and made a bet with classmates that he could eat it. Weeks later, his parents were called to the principal's office and were told that their son has to stop eating dead "baby birds."

Chynaman, for his part, got the crowed doubling up in laughter with his more physical comedic style. He was a hit with his mimicry of how different ethnicities on Saipan dance and even point to soy sauce.

Canadian comic Ron Josol and his opening act, local standup comedian Chynaman. SAIPAN TRIBUNE

The funnyman from Fina Sisu said Filipinos usually point with their lips, while Palauans use their noses. Carolinians have a more indirect way of pointing, he said, as they dance first before pointing with their feet extended.

Police officer Jason Tarkong said he had a lot of fun. "I really enjoyed the entertainment. I was impressed first of all with Chinaman. He had some new material and it was hilarious. Ron, on the other hand, was a fresh look from another funny Filipino comedian which all locals on the islands can relate too. Regardless if he was raised in Canada the core Filipino stereotypes were there. I enjoyed how he mimicked his father 'MY CREATION!', to ordering at McDonalds in his thick Filipino accent, to crossing the border and how his father sat in the back seat and his mother denied knowing him."

Twins Supermaket staff Anne Lorraine Victoria, meanwhile, said she was impressed by how Josol was able to draw the crowd to seeing things the same way.

"Not everyone is cognizant of the Filipino culture but he did make people roll in their seats at some point. My sister and I had a great time," she said.

Rowell Kalaw said it was great to watch something different and new for a change, adding that Josol was really funny and his impressions were spot on.

Vaughn "Bonez" Hoffschneider, for his part, said he hadn't laughed that hard in a long time.

"Funny from the get-go. I had a lot of laughs, so much fun and very entertaining. Even though he did say that's he's not that kind of guy, the 'ladies what do you do on your first try' bit had me rolling off my seat. He had a lot of really funny stuff and I enjoyed it…I also want to say 'big ups' to Chynaman AKA 'Boujiour' on his act as well... LOL the whole night, yo! "

Leezle Iglecias said Josol and Chynaman's Pinoy jokes reminded her a lot of her mom. "She'd react to most situations the very same way as Josol's parents. It was fun!"

MarPac's Melvin Tenorio said he was very happy with the turnout as well as the positive feedback from the crowd. He said MarPac will have other promotions coming up to celebrate its 40th year anniversary on the islands. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-13-019

SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF ENGINE LUBE OILS FOR POWER GENERATION

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms for the supply and delivery of engine lubricating oils for CUC Power Generation facilities on Saipan and Rota for the period starting August 01, 2013 through August 30, 2017.

The RFP package may be obtained upon receipt of a non-refundable deposit from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 for one set from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on **May 7, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-RFP-13-019, Supply & Delivery Of Engine Lube Oils for Power Generation"*, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **May 23, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All Offerors are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The Proposal Price shall remain the same throughout the term of the contract except for the variation in the MOPS and government taxes, duties and fees.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

All questions or request for clarification must be submitted in writing no later than **May 10, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Wallon Young, CUC Deputy Director for Power via email wallon59@yahoo.com and Charles Warren, CUC Chief Financial Officer via email charles_warren@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind its customers that payments not received by close of business on **May 21**, will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00 p.m. on that day. To prevent temporary suspension, customers must pay their bills on or before **May 21**.

THIS WILL BE THE ONLY NOTIFICATION IT&E CUSTOMERS WILL RECEIVE

You have the right to dispute this notice. You must state your claim in person or in writing no later than **May 21**. You must pay any amount not in dispute to avoid disconnection. Payment denotes acceptance of all charges.

If you have questions regarding billing or service, Please call Customer Service at **682-4ITE (4483)** or Visit any IT&E CS Center nearest you.

IT&E Life in Motion

To avoid disconnection you may pay your IT&E bill at any location below:

SHELL Service Stations – up to 4:00pm
Chalan Laulau – up to 6:00pm
Tinian/Rota Office - up to 4:30pm
TSL Plaza – up to 6:00pm
Online payment – up to 9:00pm

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

May 20, 2005

State of emergency declared

Due to recurring power outages, Gov. Juan N. Babauta declared a state of disaster emergency yesterday and subsequently assumed control of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., initially for 30 days or up to 90 days-if necessary. In his State of the Commonwealth Address held at the Multi-Purpose Center yesterday morning, Babauta said the CUC crisis-which he blamed largely on the lack of a long-term fuel contract-"is an emergency that threatens the welfare of everyone in the Commonwealth." CUC's top officials met Babauta's declaration with acquiescence and expressions of hope that the governor's move would help get CUC out of its crisis.

New delegate bill passes US House panel

The newly introduced CNMI delegate bill has unanimously passed a U.S. House panel and is now up for floor discussion, according to Washington Rep. Pete A. Tenorio yesterday. In his 2005 report to Legislature, Tenorio disclosed that the bill, H.R. 873, was unanimously approved yesterday by the House Resources Committee, chaired by Rep. Richard Pombo (R-Calif.). "I am happy to report to you that today, chairman Pombo's committee on resources had marked up the NMI delegate bill and provided its unanimous approval for our delegate bill to move forward for a floor debate in the House of Representatives. We should all hope and pray that the House will pass our bill so that it could move to the Senate for action in the very near future," said Tenorio.

May 20, 2006

Rolling blackouts begin anew

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. began implementing yesterday an emergency power load shedding on Saipan due to continuing mechanical problems at Power Plant 1. In a public announcement, CUC said necessary repairs of equipment are ongoing. It appealed for everyone's patience and understanding. CUC said that from 2pm to 4pm, affected areas include from Gualo Rai traffic light northward toward Sugar King Monument, part of China Town, and As Falipe area. From 4pm to 6pm, affected areas cover Lower Base, Capitol Hill, As Teo, Kagman I, II, and III, and Papago. From 6pm to 8pm, the entire Feeder 7 is affected. The areas include Lower Base, Tanapag, San Roque, As Matuis, and Marpi.

Retirees meet to discuss retirement bills

Aware of the government's plan to overhaul the retirement system, the Commonwealth Association of Retired Persons Inc. finally set a meeting last night to discuss their plan of action to protect their earned benefits. "We're meeting with our board," said association president David Igitol Thursday. He said the group's officers are scheduled to discuss the two bills submitted by the Fitial administration-the Defined Benefit Plan Rescue and Reform Act of 2006 and the Defined Contribution Plan Act of 2006. "We'll make a unified position on these proposals," Igitol said.

May 20, 2007

Fitch: Seaport revenue rating outlook negative

Fitch has expanded its negative rating on the Commonwealth Ports Authority's outstanding debt to cover not just the airport division but also the seaport division. From a stable outlook, the seaport revenue bond rating has been revised to negative, based on the latest assessment by Fitch. In a statement released yesterday, Fitch also downgraded the seaport's rating for its $37.1 million outstanding debt to negative 'BBB.'The debt involves the 1998 and 2005 senior series seaport revenue bonds, which were secured by a gross pledge of seaport revenues. It said the negative rating outlook is "based on the narrow economy's recent contraction and the likely impact on the seaport's financial operations in the near-medium term."

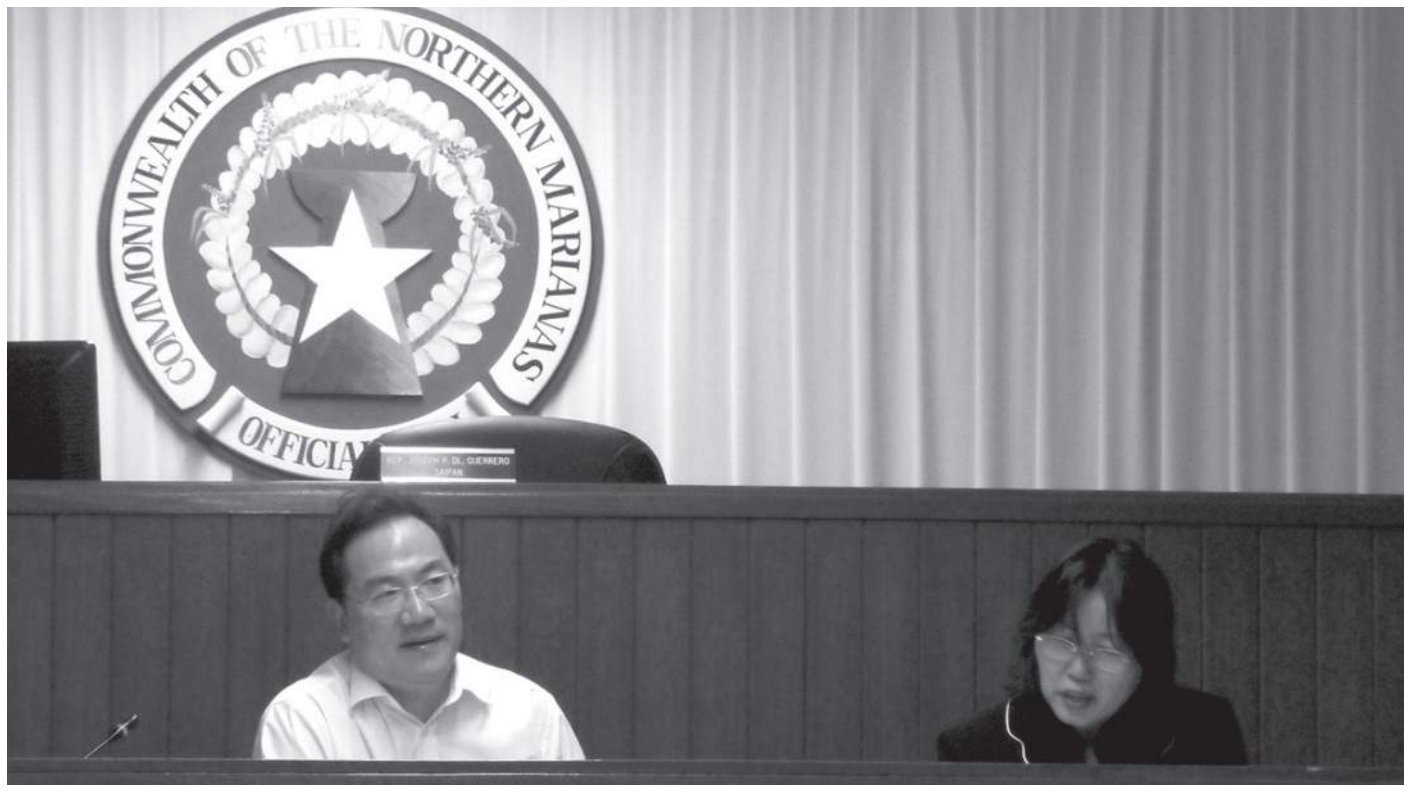
Marianas March raises $75K

Friday night's Marianas March Against Cancer proved to be another crowd-drawer, attracting over 2,000 marchers and runners and raising some $75,620 for the fight against cancer. There were 17 teams that participated. Team Bodig won most of the major award categories, including Best Baton, Best Tent, Most Money Raised for Family Group, and Most Luminaries Sold. Team Bodig sold $4,105 luminaries and collected $12,395.69. The Most Spirit Award went to Team PIC, while Team PTI/MHS garnered the Most Laps, with 507 laps posted that night.

Green energy investor touts 20 pct. cut in power costs

»Governor urges investors to wait for RFP

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
Wu Xing Yun, left, president of Blue Ocean Energy, through a translator, presents his company's plan to build a $100 million, 50-megawatt liquefied natural gas plant on Saipan to lawmakers on Thursday.

Hong Kong-based Blue Ocean Energy Corp. told lawmakers Thursday that their planned $100 million, 50-megawatt liquefied natural gas, or LNG, plant project will provide electricity at least 20 percent per kilowatt hour cheaper than what they currently pay the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos said he welcomes the interests shown by renewable energy investors but said these investors should prepare instead for the release of a request for proposal for at least a 40-MW power plant project.

Inos said the RFP may be issued in 45 to 60 days.

Wu Xing Yun, president of Blue Ocean Energy, through a translator, presented his company's plan to build an LNG plant on Saipan to provide cheaper and reliable alternative energy supply.

Senators and House members took turns asking Wu about their planned LNG project.

Rep. Mario Taitano (IR-Saipan) asked about Blue Ocean Energy's proposed power rate.

Wu said their projection is to sell power that is cheaper by 20 percent per kilowatt hour, which is 25 to 26 cents, considering that residential customers current pay CUC 32 cents per kwh.

However, this still excludes CUC's administrative, distribution and other charges so end-users may end up paying only a few cents cheaper for LNG compared to CUC power.

Wu said he can't give the exact amount per kilowatt hour until after the CNMI government signs an agreement with Blue Ocean Energy. No such agreement exists.

Sen. Pete Reyes (IR-Saipan) said they are hoping that Blue Ocean will be able to further lower its proposed rate.

Reyes and other lawmakers, however, support liquefied natural gas as a good alternative to costly fossil fuel.

"The people of the CNMI are suffering too much in trying to pay for their CUC bills. Finding a reasonable and a more permanent solution to energy costs is necessary. Thus I offer a different alternative and encourage the administration to consider liquefied natural gas as an alternative measure to replace our existing fossil fuel generators," said Reyes, chairman of the Senate Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications.

Wu said their $100 million total investment plan is divided into three phases—construction of the plant, gas deepening utilization, and LNG carrier purchase.

He said this will be a "pilot" project on Saipan, and is asking for CNMI government support.

In responding to a question from Rep. Tony Sablan (IR-Saipan), Wu said their company presented materials about their plan to former governor Benigno R. Fitial's administration in October 2012.

House PUTC Committee chair Rep. Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero (IR-Saipan) asked whether any agreement was signed between the administration and Blue Ocean Energy. There was none, according to Blue Ocean Energy.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, when asked for comment Thursday, said there is no request for a meeting with Blue Ocean Energy at this time.

"Furthermore, the administration often receives unsolicited proposals for projects from interested investors. While the administration has heard several ideas and proposals, the governor has made clear his position that any such undertaking by the government will have to go through the route of an RFP," Demapan told *Saipan Tribune.*

Blue Ocean Energy's presentation before lawmakers came a week after Green Globe Solutions also presented its planned $200 million, 40-megawatt wind and solar energy project on Tinian and Saipan. After drawing criticism from lawmakers, Green Globe later said they are cutting ties with Allegiance Capital Corp., which previously agreed to finance their project.

Allegiance Capital is the same financer for a botched Saipan Development LLC project to build a $190.8 million diesel power plant, which is tied to a planned shipyard in Lower Base. The sole-source SDLLC power purchase deal remains under a court injunction.

Japanese govt invites MHS to youth exchange

The Japanese government has invited Marianas High School to take part in a new youth exchange program that will visit Tokyo and other environs from July 8 to 18.

Dubbed the "Kakehashi Project-The Bridge for Tomorrow," the youth exchange program will have participating local students also visit host Japanese schools to learn first hand about the country's culture, advanced technologies, historical heritage, and natural environment unique to Japan.

The Consular Office of Japan said about 23 students from MHS, accompanied by two chaperones, will make the trip to Japan as part of the program.

A total of 23 high schools from the U.S. have been invited to take part in the Kakehashi Project and MHS will tour Japan the same time as seven other schools from the mainland.

According to the Consular Office, the project has two main objectives—1. to promote interest in Japan, which will result in an increase in the number of foreign tourists visiting Japan, thus, contributing to Japan's economic recovery; and 2. To raise awareness of the Japan brand, including Japan's strength and attractiveness (example: "Cool Japan" and Japanese-style values).

Upon their return to Saipan, the 23 MHS students are expected to answer a follow-up questionnaire.

In all, a total of 2,300 American students from junior high school to graduate school will take in the Kakehashi Project. The U.S., for its part, will host 2,300 Japanese students who will head to different areas in the country and participate in homestay and exchange programs to introduce Japan's strengths and attractiveness.

"We sincerely hope that this project can contribute to deepening mutual understanding among U.S. and Japanese students, and to nurture future leaders who will take the initiative in advancing Japan-U.S. exchanges," the Consular Office said. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Job Vacancy No. 13-032 **Opening Date:** Thursday, May 16, 2013
Closing Date: Wednesday, May 29, 2013

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS TECHNICIAN

DUTIES: Under the overall supervision of the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) or his/her designee, the incumbent's duties and responsibilities are as follows. May supervise lower level staff to include: prioritizing and assigning work; conducting performance evaluations; ensuring staff are trained; and, making hiring, termination, and disciplinary recommendations. Performs a wide variety of routine to moderate level fiscal support activities to include: verifying daily transactions processed by others; editing and posting daily transactions; preparing change fund at bank; preparing certification of completion of services; entering NSF checks; preparing billing cycles; reviewing tampered accounts; and, preparing billing adjustments. Generates, reviews and distributes reports. Maintains filing systems. Receives and responds to customer complaints. Perpares response letters to customers. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level. SUBJECT TO PRE-EMPLOYMENT DRUG SCREENING.

LOCATION: CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER DIVISION, SAIPAN.

POSITIONS: Six (6).

SALARY: $7.28 - $9.34 per hour.

CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: High School Diploma, or G.E.D., and three years work experience. Preferred requirement: Experience in the hospitality industry, customer service, bookkeeping and/or fiscal support. Knowledge of: Supervisory principles; Basic bookkeeping principles; Office procedures, methods, and equipment; Keyboarding techniques; Basic mathematical concepts; Customer service principles; Banking procedures. Skill in: Monitoring and evaluating staff; Prioritizing and assigning work to staff; Providing customer service; Paying attention to detail in order to find errors; Performing basic mathematical calculations; Maintaining records; Keyboarding; Using standard office equipment; Tabulating, recording, and balancing transactions; Preparing routine reports; Using a computer and related software applications; Communication, interpersonal and writing skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. APPLICANTS MAY BE TESTED.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the CUC Tinian or CUC Rota Administration Office.

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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Job Vacancy No. 13-033 **Opening Date:** Thursday, May 16, 2013
Closing Date: Wednesday, May 29, 2013

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS ASSISTANT

Duties: Under the direct supervision of the Financial Accounting Specialist or his/her designee. Performs a wide variety of routine fiscal support activities to include: receiving and processing payments; issuing receipts; preparing daily deposit slips; opening new accounts; closing credit cards; verifying and processing payroll; running automatic credit card payments; posting invoices; preparing checks; preparing refunds; and, preparing charge vouchers. Generates and distributes routine reports. Maintains filing systems. Performs customer service, administrative and receptionist activities to include assisting customers with applications, payments and in settling disputes. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level as required.

LOCATION(S): Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.

SALARY: $5.90 - $7.25 per hour.

CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

POSITION(S): Two (2).

Minimum Requirements: High School diploma or General Education Diploma (GED) or Adult School (AS) diploma through the Adult Basic Education (ABE) program. Preferred requirement: A year's experience in the hospitality industry, customer service, bookkeeping and/or fiscal support. Knowledge of: Basic bookkeeping principles; Office procedures, methods, and equipment; Keyboarding techniques; Basic mathematical concepts; Customer service principles; Cash handling and bank deposit procedures. Skill in: Providing customer service; Performing basic mathematical calculations; Maintaining records; Keyboarding; Using standard office equipment; Tabulating, recording, and balancing transactions; Preparing routine reports; Using a computer and related software applications; Communication, interpersonal and writing skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisors, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Job Vacancy No. 13-034 **Opening Date:** Thursday, May 16, 2013
Closing Date: Wednesday, May 29, 2013

METER READER

DUTIES: The incumbent in this position will be under the direct supervision of the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) or his or her designee. Responsibilities and duties include but are not limited to: Reads electric and water meters, performs service investigations. Operates government vehicles; conducts basic vehicle inspections to ensure they are in proper working order, operates handheld meter reading device. Prepares and submits deficiency or problem reports on meters. Assists other departments in finding customer locations and with service verifications. Locates new customers and ensures customers are hooked up and added to the system. Replace meters as required and performs other duties of a similar nature or level. SUBJECT TO PRE-EMPLOYMENT DRUG SCREENING.

LOCATION: CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER DIVISION, ***SAIPAN.***

POSITIONS: Four (4).

SALARY: $5.90 - $12.13 per hour.

CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: High School Diploma, or G.E.D., and two years work experience. Knowledge of: Customer service techniques; Basic mathematics. Skills in: Reading maps; Operating vehicles; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Prepare reports; Communication, interpersonal and writing skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. APPLICANTS MAY BE TESTED.

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER
The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

OUR CURRENT ECONOMIC MESS IS CONGRESS'S FAULT!
THE BENGHAZI TALKING POINTS? THE CIA DID THAT!
IT WAS THE IRS THAT HARASSED THE TEA PARTY!
SEIZING JOURNALISTS' PHONE RECORDS? THAT WAS THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT!
SO WHAT IS IT THAT I DO?
JUST STAND AROUND HERE AND LOOK GOOD.
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EDITORIAL

President must show more leadership and decisiveness

It's bad enough that the Obama administration committed a wholesale violation of the First Amendment by prying into the records of phones used by almost 100 people at The Associated Press. But then Attorney General Eric Holder made matters worse by trying to justify this egregious intrusion into the rights of working reporters by saying the Justice Department was just trying to plug a leak.

The scandal over the phone records, along with the controversy over IRS harassment of conservative political groups and the Benghazi attacks, paint a picture of an administration in disarray, and a president out of touch. The best defense that press secretary Jay Carney can muster in the phone records controversy is that the White House was out of the loop, as if that relieves President Obama and the officials around him of all responsibility for this misbegotten effort to spy on the press.

The usual routine when reporters' phone records are sought is to notify the news organization ahead of time so they can have a fair chance to argue against disclosure. Mr. Holder and other Justice Department officials are well versed in this process. But in this instance, they decided to go directly to the phone companies with a subpoena and notify The AP later—much later.

Mr. Holder says he recused himself from the action because he was interviewed by FBI agents as part of the leak investigation, but he attempted to justify the decision by saying the leaked information amounted to a grave violation of national security, involving a terrorist case in Yemen. But The AP says it held the story for several days until the organization was assured by the government that the security concerns had passed.

Unfortunately, congressional reaction to the scandals seems heavy on posturing and politics, with little concern for policy and corrective legislation. It seems particularly odd that the same lawmakers who were complaining last year that the administration wasn't serious about chasing leaks are now presenting themselves as First Amendment champions.

If they're serious, they can support a revived effort to enact a federal shield law to help working members of the press win greater protections from penalties for refusing to identify confidential sources. The proposal, first espoused by Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., would also enable journalists to ask a federal judge to quash subpoenas for their phone records.

In the IRS investigation, lawmakers would make a valuable legislative contribution by clarifying who qualifies for tax-exempt status as a 501 (c) (40 or 501 (c) (3) organization. As matters stand, the law is vague and murky, putting too much discretion into the hands of IRS functionaries.

Late in the day, Mr. Obama announced that the administration had obtained the resignation of the acting IRS commissioner. That's a start. To avoid becoming a lame duck so early in his second term, the president needs to show this level of leadership and decisiveness in all of the ongoing scandals.

©2013 The Miami Herald

Why I support the health care impact tax

By RUSS MASON, M.S.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

For the better part of a decade, Russ Mason wrote for a medical journal, Alternative & Complementary Therapies. *His principal assignment was to interview a physician or other health care practitioner about new and important treatments, as well as diet and nutrition. Prior to that, he worked at NBC in New York for 16 years, often as a writer for their television programs.*

If you are not familiar with this bill (H.R. No. 18-34) it imposes a tax on tobacco products, alcoholic beverages and sugary soft drinks.

Seventy percent of the money raised will go to CHC; the other 30 percent will go to the Division of Public Health Services for non-communicable disease prevention and controls. The bill does not go far enough, but is a step in the right direction.

Last week I attended a hearing about this bill at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. Representatives from the CHC and Division of Public Services presented alarming information: our Commonwealth is poisoning (my word) itself, and the numbers are growing exponentially. Seventy percent of deaths in the CNMI are from non-communicable diseases. These include cancer, diabetes, heart disease, stroke, obesity, and others. The most prevalent are cancer and diabetes, and obesity contributes to both.

I have often written about dangerous foods and other substances that contribute to cancer and diabetes, but I was shocked at how enormously these problems have grown.

The number of new patients seeking medical treatment has mushroomed, and the numbers keep growing. Sadly, there is no end in sight: the residents of the CNMI continue to ingest poisons in record amounts and, eventually, become deathly ill. We see some of their names on signs at Microl corner, and new names will certainly appear next week, and beyond.

These diseases are preventable, but few of the local population seem to be interested in safeguarding their personal health, or even that of their children. This means that CHC, the Division of Public Health Safety, the Commonwealth Cancer Association, and other health organizations will have to (somehow) increase their treatment and prevention initiatives.

This is a bit like a few people trying to push a huge boulder up Mt. Topochao; and there is every possibility that they, and the Commonwealth, will be crushed by its weight. No joke.

There are not many times when a community must pull together as a community and to work for the greater good, but this is one of them. Non-communicable diseases are everyone's problem because every life is touched by death and disease in some way.

Those who argue that it will negatively impact local commerce, or restrict individual freedoms, miss the point. A crisis of this magnitude must take precedence. The people here are dying needlessly. Kids are being poisoned.

Last week, one person argued that individuals ought to be free to do whatever they liked, and if this involved smoking, drinking, and consuming sugary beverages, they are entitled to do this. I agree. If someone wants to commit suicide on the installment plan, that is a personal choice. Nothing is being banned, only taxed to raise money to help fight the diseases these products cause. This seems right and fair.

But there are other factors that cannot be ignored.

Nobody drinks, smokes, or engages in unhealthy practices in total isolation. There are usually young people around who see this behavior, and think that it's OK. How many fathers and mothers smoke, drink, eat pink meat-in-a-can, and chew betel nut in front of their kids? Or at barbecues? Or at parties?

Young people are impressionable. When they see adults consuming various poisons, they think that this is what grown-ups do, and that it is OK. It is not OK, not if you want to live a long and happy life.

When I spoke to the representatives last week I informed them that the FDA does not ban tobacco, alcohol or sugar, because these poisons do not kill the person right away. It may take 20 or more years, but eventually the gradual intake of cigarette smoke, sugar, and other toxic substances will find fertile ground to grow. That is when the trouble starts.

I also said that the term "sin tax" was inappropriate. Cigarettes are not a sin; they are poison. So is sugar and alcohol and other substances. The Commonwealth would be better served by calling them "poison taxes."

Before the hearing began, I spoke with Rep. Ogumoro. I suggested that artificial sweeteners be added to H.R. No. 18-34.

As dangerous as sugar is, artificial sweeteners are far, far more deadly. Aspartame and its cousins, sucralose, and other additives, contribute to brain damage, obesity and nerve damage. One woman, who drank artificially-sweetened cocoa at bedtime experienced temporary blindness. These chemicals are extremely toxic and ought to have been banned. But, as I stated earlier, because they don't kill you right away, the FDA has a hands-off policy.

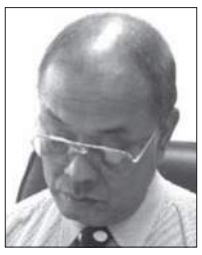
There are two other substances that ought to be more highly taxed, but I don't see it happening. These are betel nut and pink meat-in-a-can (you know what it is). The challenge with these sub-

See TAX on Next Page

Obama's flurry of scandals

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*



President Obama has a flurry of scandals that includes Benghazi, the IRS, and the AP. The mounting controversies aren't issues he could bluff by standing inside the halo of oratorical rhetoric. Not this time Mr. O. The dam is broken and the deluge of suspicion rushing through Pennsylvania Avenue is too powerful to contain, even for the White House bunker boys.

Michael Goodwin of the *New York Post* summarized what went wrong with Mr. O's WH. "It started with the sensational Benghazi hearing, where previously muzzled whistleblowers detailed the administration's bungles before, during, and after the terror attack. Throw in reports showing the infamous Susan Rice talking points were rewritten 11 times, going from fact to fiction, and Benghazi suddenly became the important story it should have been all along.

"If that were all, it would have been enough. But the near-simultaneous revelations in recent days about the IRS playing political favorites, the massive phone grab at the AP news operation, and Obamacare's cost impact combined to demonstrate something I believed for a long time."

He accused the Obama administration as being both "corrupt and incompetent." It is a double whammy that spells trouble for the nation, at home and abroad.

"The corruption in Obama-Land is the selective use of government power to reward friends and punish opponents. Political allies—think Solyndra and unions—get special goodies, while those who oppose the regime's agenda are demonized and singled out for scrutiny. The IRS targeting of groups with 'Tea Party' or 'patriot' in their names and those that advocate less spending smacks of the tactics of banana republic strongmen. Hugo Chavez and Fidel Castro would be proud.

"But America is a nation of laws and not of men, of individual liberty and not of centralized power. And that national dynamic explains the firestorm of anger aimed at the White House. The headlines have sparked a wide and genuine outcry over Obama's push against the nation's roots.

"Whatever the reason, what we see so far is certainly not the end of it. You can bet other nasty, intrusive surprises are hiding in the vast deep of the expanding bureaucracy.

"The ultimate danger is a lack of accountability. The idea that ordinary citizens hold the power has no meaning when the political class circles the wagons and the press looks the other way while the president accumulates more power and control.

"That is where we have been, but hopefully, not where we are going. Their liberty DNA kicking in, more and more citizens, including some in the media, finally are expressing shock and anger at how big, clumsy and crooked our government is. They are welcome to the discovery, belated though it is.

"For those of us not shocked by the inevitable, there is vindication but no satisfaction. Each example of Obama's chickens coming home to roost just makes more obvious how much damage he's already done.

"The repair begins by throwing open the doors and windows of Washington. We'll need a lot of sunshine to disinfect this rot. So much for Mr. O's fast fading 'hope and change.'"

Storm ahead for IRS official

There are more bad tidings: the IRS official in charge of the tax-exempt organizations at the time when the unit targeted various conservative groups now heads the IRS office handling the health care legislation.

Sarah Hall Ingram served as commissioner of the office responsible for tax-exempt organizations between 2009 and 2012. She's since left that part of the IRS and is now the director of the IRS' Affordable Care Act office, the IRS confirmed to ABC News last weekend.

Her successor, Joseph Grant, is taking the fall for misdeeds at the scandal-plagued unit between 2010 and 2012. During at least part of that time, Grant served as deputy commissioner of the tax-exempt unit.

Grant recently announced that he would retire June 3, despite being appointed as commissioner of the tax-exempt office May 8, a week ago.

As the House voted to fully repeal the Affordable Care Act Thursday evening, House Speaker John Boehner expressed "serious concerns" that the IRS is empowered as the law's chief enforcer.

"Fully repealing ObamaCare will help us build a stronger, healthier economy, and will clear the way for patient-centered reforms that lower health care costs and protect jobs," Boehner, R-Ohio, said.

"Obamacare empowers the agency that just violated the public's trust by secretly targeting conservative groups," Rep. Marlin Stutzman, R-Ind., added. "Even by Washington's standards, that's unacceptable."

Sen. John Cornyn of Texas even introduced a bill, the "Keep the IRS Off Your Health Care Act of 2013," which would prohibit the Secretary of the Treasury, or any delegate, including the IRS, from enforcing the Affordable Care Act.

NMDs speak out against planned use of Pagan

Editor's Note: The following is NMDC Resolution 2013 -01 that was recently adopted by the Northern Marianas Descent Corp., a non-profit chartered corporation, to oppose the U.S. military's planned use of Pagan in the Northern Islands.

First part of a series

Presenting the views and position of the Northern Marianas Descent Corp., a non-profit chartered corporation whose members are local U.S. citizen persons of Northern Marianas descent, incorporated on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Whereas, the Chamorro and the Carolinian people of the Northern Mariana Islands, now known as persons of Northern Marianas descent, entered into a political union with the United States of America through the *Covenant* on February 15, l975; and

Whereas, Article I, Section 102 of the *Covenant* states in part that, "The relations between the Northern Mariana Islands and the United States will be governed by this *Covenant*"; and

Whereas, Section 103 of the *Covenant* states that, "The people of the Northern Mariana Islands will have the right of local self government and will govern themselves with respect to internal affairs in accordance with a *Constitution* of their own adoption"; and

Whereas, Section 104 of the *Covenant* states that, "The United States will have complete responsibility for and authority with respect to matters relating to foreign affairs and defense affecting the Northern Mariana Islands"; and

Whereas, Section 105 of the *Covenant* states in part that, "In order to respect the right of self-government guaranteed by this *Covenant* the United States agrees to limit the exercise of its authority so that the fundamental provisions of this *Covenant*, namely Articles l, ll and lll and Sections 501 and 805, may be modified *only* with the consent of the Government of the United States and the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands"; and

Whereas, Section 805 of the *Covenant* states in part that, "In view of the importance of the ownership of land for the culture and tradition of the people of the Northern Mariana Islands, and in order to protect them against exploitation and to promote their economic advancement and sufficiency: (a) will until twenty-five years after the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement may thereafter regulate the alienation of permanent and long-term interests in real property so as to restrict the acquisition of such interests to persons of Northern Mariana Islands descent"; and

Whereas, Section 806 of the *Covenant* states in part that, "The United States will continue to recognize and respect the scarcity and special importance of land in the Northern Mariana Islands. If the United States must acquire any interest in real property not transferred to it under this *Covenant*, it will follow the policy of seeking to acquire only the minimum area necessary to accomplish the public purpose for which the real property is required, of seeking only the minimum interest in real property necessary to support such public purpose…;" and

Whereas, *Covenant* Section 802 (a) properties were made available to the Government of the United States by lease (pursuant to Section 803 (a)) to enable it to carry out its defense responsibilities: (1) On Tinian Island, approximately 17,799 acres (7,203 hectares) and the waters immediately adjacent thereto; and (2) on Saipan Island, approximately 177 acres (72 hectares) at Tanapag Harbor; and (3) On Farallon de Medinilla Island, approximately 208 acres (83 hectares) encompassing the entire island, and the waters immediately adjacent thereto. And, (b) states that the, "The United States affirms that it has no present need for or present intention to acquire any greater interest in property listed above than that which is granted to it under Subsection 803 (a) or to acquire any property in addition to that listed in Subsection (a) above, in order to carry out its defense responsibilities"; and

Whereas, in addition to the properties leased to the United States, pursuant to *Covenant* Section 803 (a), Section 804 (b) also makes available to the United States for use by US military and naval aircrafts all facilities at Isely Field (Honorable Francisco C. Ada International Air Terminal) developed with federal aid and all facilities at that field usable for the landing and take-off of aircrafts, in common with other aircrafts, at all times without charge, except, if the use by the US military and naval aircraft shall be substantial, a reasonable share, proportional to such use, of the cost of operating and maintaining the facilities so used may be charged at a rate established by agreement between the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands and Government of the United States; and

Whereas, Sections 802(a), 803(a), and 804(b) of the *Covenant* cited above mention the properties that were made available to the United States to carry out its defense responsibilities, and for use by the US military and naval aircraft for landing and take-off of aircrafts. Such US military exercises and activities basically expanded and extended outward in all directions from such properties miles and miles use of the Commonwealth's airspace, and interrupting and restricting any and all private and commercial activities in the area. Practically, all these properties combined exceeded the minimum requirement expressed under *Covenant* Section 806, considering the limited availability of land in the Northern Mariana Islands that must be preserved and held for the future generations of persons of Northern Marianas descent and their economy; and

Whereas, Pagan Island is considered a timeless and valuable cultural, environmental, ecological, and biological treasure and a sacred and sacrosanct ancestral home to our Chamorro and Carolinian people of Northern Marianas descent;

To be continued

TAX

From Page 10

stances is that they are an integral part of the culture. Pacific Island residents have chewed betel nut for centuries; it's a component of their heritage. To give it up is, for many, unimaginable.

The pink meat-in-a-can became a staple food going back to 1944, when American soldiers shared their food with the people here. It was convenient, tasty, and did not require refrigeration. Later, when the U.S. troops moved out, the canned meat remained. Other processed meats soon followed. They were convenient, cheap, and made a slow death taste delicious.

If the health problems facing the CNMI were not so formidable, I would not be quite so insistent. I have no problem with cigarettes, alcohol, sugar, chewing betel nut, or even processed meat. The challenge is one of being sensibly moderate. It is possible to regard these toxic substances as a special treat, to be enjoyed once in a great while, but not for daily consumption.

But here, it seems, many citizens cannot be moderate. If they drink, they drink to excess, or daily. If they smoke, it's a pack a day or more. If they chew betel nut, it's a handful a day. Pink meat and white rice is the daily meal, usually with beer or a cola. Then the people become obese, develop diabetes, or cancer, or both, or develop a heart condition.

Usually a person will do all of the above: smoke, drink, chew, and eat toxic food. As I stated previously, they have every right to do this. But they are negative role models for the children and this becomes a toxic generational horror.

Even if the House passes H.R. No. 18-34, the challenges we will all face as a community will be daunting. There is no quick fix, no easily solution, especially with an obstinate public that loves its poisons.

The only solution is to get prevention information to the kids on time, before they start skipping down the path toward a deadly lifestyle.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A better model

The article I read about the proposed diving fees was a little unclear about whether the $25 fee was per each dive or for the length of the diver's stay. Surely $25 for each dive is way too much, even for such worthy goals. Perhaps a system like the island of Bonaire in the Caribbean would be a guide. Their about $30 fee is good for a year and also is admission to the island's park. Upon payment you are given a numbered plastic tag that is attached to your dive equipment. A graduated system of one or two dollars per dive for people not planning to dive much and a larger, say, $25 fee good for a month would serve. But an exemption for dive guides and other resident business divers would be needed. I am quite willing to help protect and promote local resources. And making the resources a value to the local people will help keep them protected for generations. Increasing development while keeping the local quality of life is an important balance to maintain.

Rodney Wooten
MacClesfield, North Carolina

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. East winds 5 to 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

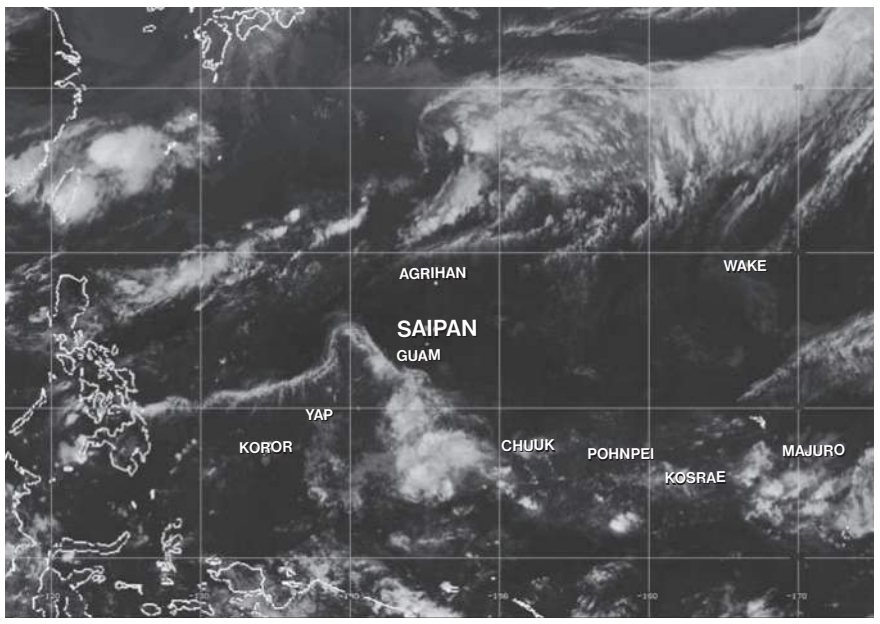
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Mostly Sunny	▲89	▼82
Palau	Showers	▲87	▼76
Yap	Showers	▲91	▼79
Chuuk	Showers	▲88	▼82
Pohnpei	Showers	▲86	▼81
Kosrae	Showers	▲86	▼81
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼81

Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲65	▼56
Beijing	Sunny	▲87	▼57
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲83	▼78
Honolulu	Showers	▲82	▼71
London	Showers	▲59	▼54
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲74	▼61
Manila	Thundershowers	▲90	▼83
Melbourne	Showers	▲64	▼47
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲85	▼74
New York	Cloudy	▲64	▼58
Osaka	Showers	▲72	▼63
Paris	Showers	▲56	▼53
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲73	▼60
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲67	▼56
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲65	▼43
San Francisco	Sunny	▲70	▼56
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲72	▼54
Tokyo	Showers	▲71	▼64
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲69	▼64

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2013
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A trade-wind disturbance is causing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms between Chuuk and Yap in an area bounded by a line from 3N138E to 12N144E to 5N152E back to 3N138E. Convergent southwest winds are generating cloudiness. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms southeast of Okinawa within 125 miles of a line from 20N132E to 22N137E to 23N144E. Similar weather is also occurring over Minami Tori Shima or north of a line from 24N146E to 24N162E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms near Pohnpei and Kosrae but over Butaritari and Tarawa atolls within 160 miles of a line from 5N159E to 4N169E to 4N178E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

4:16 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.9 Feet
11:00 AM	Today	High Tide:	0.6 Feet
4:39 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.4 Feet
10:29 PM	Today	High Tide:	0.6 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:47 AM	6:40 PM
Tuesday	5:47 AM	6:40 PM
Wednesday	5:47 AM	6:41 PM
Thursday	5:47 AM	6:41 PM
Friday	5:46 AM	6:41 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	1:53 PM	1:29 AM
Tuesday	2:47 PM	2:11 AM
Wednesday	3:43 PM	2:55 AM
Thursday	4:43 PM	3:42 AM
Friday	5:45 PM	4:34 AM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 6, 2013

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
UA5068	8:35am	9:25am	Daily
UA5074	11:20am	12:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ606	2:55am	6:35am	1
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	4:10am	8:00am	1, 5

SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-KHABAROVSK (KHV)

SYL9950	6:40pm	1:30am+1	7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ606/701	2:55am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	6 via GUM
UA5062/191	4:50am	9:55am	3 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:05pm	Daily via NRT
UA5068/PR111	8:35am	4:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
US5074/PR111	11:20am	4:35pm	1, 5, 7 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ606/721	2:55am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
OZ604/745	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA5073	10:00am	10:50am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:35pm	6:25pm	Daily
UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA5062	3:45am	4:20am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	11:15am	11:50am	6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	1, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	7:55pm	3:10am+1	4, 7

GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

KHABAROVSK (KHV)-SAIPAN

SYL9949	12:45pm	5:20pm	7

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

PR110/UA5072	7:55am	6:25pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
DL172/288	8:00am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
UA190/5077	10:55am	6:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
UA184/5071	11:35pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA180/5071	10:45pm	8:05am+1	1, 5 via GUM
UA180/5071	10:50pm	8:05am+1	3, 6 GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

Oleai Beach Bar & Grill reopens

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

"Great." That was what Seiichi Kamegai had to say after one of Saipan's favorite bars/restaurants by the beach, Oleai Beach Bar & Grill, had its "soft" re-opening on Friday night. The grand re-opening was on Saturday.

"This restaurant was reborn not only because of me. There are a lot of people who helped, and I thank all of them," Kamegai told *Saipan Tribune.*

A full serving of good food and drinks, spectacular sunset, serene waters, a sandy beach, and that relaxing island vibe is once again on Oleai Beach Bar & Grill's menu, which tourists and residents have come to love.

Kamegai, chief executive officer and chief operating officer of Islanders Net Inc., said the planning and its execution was tough, considering that he himself does not have an experience in the food business.

But with the help of others in the business and the support of patrons, he is glad the bar and grill is once again open for business

"I've been thinking, for a long time, this restaurant should be open for this island, the local people and for the tourists. It was 22 years ago when I first came to Saipan. There were plenty of people, plenty tourists, plenty lights, but now… Two years ago, I saw the restaurant [Oleai Beach Bar & Grill] closed. I think this restaurant should be open," he said.

They have redone the food menu but it would still be mostly local and American style.

As for the $1 taco that Oleai Beach Bar & Grill was known for, Kamegai said that is still under consideration because it's now a lot more expensive to serve tacos for that price.

"Everybody asked me for that," he said with a laugh.

Oleai Beach Bar & Grill closed on Nov. 1, 2011. Kamegai said he signed a 15-year lease with property owner Jose Seman.

Prior to the spot being named Oleai Beach Bar & Grill in the early '90s, the place also hosted the former Rudolpho's Bar before it moved to different locations.

It became the "only" authentic bar and restaurant by the beach that's not part of a hotel establishment.

In recent period, a slew of restaurants, bars and other small to medium businesses have been opening up, as optimism about the CNMI tourism industry's revival grows.

"The Shack," an open-air, island-style bistro next to Oleai Beach Bar & Grill, will also be opening shortly.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Women's Association meeting today

The CNMI Women's Association is conducting it's general meeting today, May 20, 2013, at 6pm at the Garapan Community Development Center, adjacent to the Carolinian Utt and behind the basketball court. The meeting will discuss new membership and the election of the board of directors. For more information, contact Betsy at 898-3279. ***(PR)***

Memorial Week proclamation signing

There will be a Memorial Week proclamation signing today, May 20, 2013, 2pm, at the Office of the Governor's conference room. All veterans, active and reserved military personnel, family members of those departed veterans, and the general public are invited to come and join us for this proclamation signing.

On May 27, 2013, the CNMI will be remembering its fallen heroes at the CNMI Veterans Cemetery in Marpi at 9am. ***(PR)***

Navy, Air Force training on Farallon de Medinilla

Santa Rita, Guam—The U.S. Navy and U.S. Air Force will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla on May 21-23 from 10:45am to 1pm, 3-5:15pm and 6:30-11:30pmThe Navy will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla on May 24-25 from 10:45am to 1pm and 3-5:15pm

The public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated. The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants. ***(PR)***

MHS Class of '88 meeting on May 23

This is to inform the Marianas High School Class of 1988 that there will be a meeting on Thursday, May 23, 2013, 6:30pm at Melvin and Eleanor Cepeda's residence in As Lito. Your attendance at this meeting is very important as the topic of discussion will be the class' upcoming 25th year silver class reunion. ***(PR)***

FOA to stage 'Miss Saigon'

Miss Saigon comes to Saipan this month, courtesy of the Friends of the Arts. This newest staging of the acclaimed musical will take place on May 30 and 31 for the evening shows. June 1 and 2 have both matinee and evening shows. Show time for matinee begins at 3pm and evening shows begin at 7pm. The venue is the MHS Dolphin Theater. The cost is $15 for adult non-members, $12 for adult FOA members, $8 for students, and $5 for Thespian members.

UNTIL PROCUREMENT DECIDES ON SARS' PROTEST

DPW extends Marpi landfill equipment rental contract

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Department of Public Works Secretary Martin Sablan said Thursday that DPW has extended up to May 31 its Marpi landfill equipment rental service contract with SARS/Success International Corp. because a decision on Tang's Corp.'s procurement protest related to the landfill's long-term operation is not expected until late this month.

"We have to extend the equipment rental service contract or there won't be any equipment used for the landfill operation. The Procurement and Supply director, Mr. Herman Sablan, said a decision will be made by May 28," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune.*

While DPW would like to do away with an equipment rental service deal that has always been extended on a monthly or a 15-day basis since September last year, Sablan said they have to follow procurement rules.

DPW's extended 15-day landfill equipment rental contract with SARS expired on May 15. This was extended for another 15 days. Previously, the monthly contract is at $35,000.

The department worked on a request for proposals for the landfill's operations for at least three years with an option for extension. Five companies responded to the RFP and the department later asked two top bidders—Tang's Corp. and SARS/Success International—for their best and final offer.

A review committee selected Tang's Corp.'s proposal. SARS/Success International protested with the Procurement and Supply Division but the latter has yet to decide on the matter.

LEARNING ABOUT TOURISM MTEC

Students of Dandan Elementary had a chance to learn about the Northern Marianas tourism industry during a presentation by the Marianas Tourism Education Council on May 2, 2013. Saipan-da backpacks and other prizes were given to students who correctly answered questions about tourism following the presentation.

Pistang Pinoy 2013 on June 16

The United Filipino Organization's *Pistang Pinoy* 2013 will be held on June 16, 2013, at the Garapan Fishing Base across Kristo Rai Church.

The whole-day (7am-10pm) festivities to mark the 115th anniversary of Philippine Independence will have the theme "Magkaisa: Para sa Isang Bansa ng Pagbabago at Maunlad na Pilipinas" or "Unite: For country and change and progress for the Philippines."

UFO president Annamae Adaza said that Docomo Pacific is once again a major sponsor of *Pistang Pinoy* this year.

The program of activities include a medical mission led by the BAYANI Association in the morning as well as the holding of games like *palo sebo*, tug-o-war, sack race for adults and kids, playhouse for kids, cultural dance contest, family/group talent contest (aka Showtime style), father-and-son or father-and-daughter singing contest coinciding with Father's Day, kids' drawing contest (PID theme), and volunteer performers.

For inquires and performance schedule of the daytime program, contact Minda Castro at 235-4286.

A drag modeling competition will also be held to spice up *Pistang Pinoy* 2013. The Pinoy Super Gay Model 2013 will start in the evening and already has 14 confirmed contestants. Three different categories will be at stake and a prize money of $300 await each of the three winners in the Best in Fantasy Costume, Best in Talent, and Best in Evening Gown. For inquiries, call Pinoy Super Gay Model 2013 coordinator Ernie Molina at 789-8212.

Food vendors and no- vendors for *Pistang Pinoy* 2013 are encouraged to register early and tent rental will be $50 for food stalls and $40 for non-food establishments. Call Evelyn Deazeta at 989-3845 or Flor Miranda at 233-3845 for more information.

KWAW 100.3fm listeners can also participate in *Pistang Pinoy* 2013 via a radio trivia competition from June 10 to 15 and prizes can be claimed on June 16 at the *Pistang Pinoy* grounds.

Adaza also reminded organizations under the UFO umbrella to bring and donate bandiretas or small flags (preferably with their organization's logo on it) to hang or display at the *Pistang Pinoy* 2013.

Aside from Docomo Pacific, TSL Foundation and Western Union have also agreed to serve as sponsors.

This year's *Pistang Pinoy* 2013 event chairman is Allan Hernandez of the Tau Gamma Phi/Triskelion Marianas Council.

For more information, call Adaza at 483-5237, secretary Mario Dimayuga at 285-1021, treasurer Deazeta 989-3845, Hernandez at 789-8988, Molina at 789-8212, and Castro at 235 4286. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

THANK YOU

The family of Rudolfu "Rudy" C. Aguon would like to thank all supporters for their support on his medical fundraisers. Please continue to keep him in mind on your thoughts and prayers! Message comes from the Pangelinan "Bolis" and the Aguon "Tandukes" families.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

First PSS spring music festival brings pride to community

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

PHOTOS BY MONETH G. DEPOSA

Students of Oleai Elementary School perform *The Legend of Lipe'pee'l'mo'ng* during Friday night's Spring Music Festival at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center. The group is this year's champion of the annual Parade of Books competition.

Friday night's first-ever gathering of popular musical groups in public schools was a resounding success, with the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe bursting to the seams with spectators.

Dubbed as the Public School System's first-ever Spring Music Festival, the three-hour musical show, from 6pm to 9pm Friday night, might as well have been called "The Night of Champions," as it showcased the outstanding talents of public school students who recently made names for their schools and the CNMI by bringing home gold medals and accolades from regional, state, and national competitions.

These included the popular Saipan Southern High School's Manta Ray Band, the equally talented and award-winning Marianas High School Rhythm 'N Harmony, the MHS Dolphin Band, the MHS Polksai Chamorro Club, the Koblerville Elementary School's Umang Glee Club, the Oleai Elementary School's Parade of Books team, and the Hopwood Junior High's music and dance group and band.

The finale had all the performers and education officials performing in a special number conducted by the Manta Band's musical director and conductor, Will DeWitt, who received a standing ovation.

Florence C. Sablan, who took her granddaughters with her to the event, was amazed at the talents she witnessed and looks forward to more shows of this kind.

"I really enjoyed the show with my granddaughters. I am really impressed! I think they should do it annually, maybe in a bigger venue like the American Memorial Park so everyone can watch," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune*.

Sablan believes that PSS should continue to support and motivate its talented students and perhaps consider offering in the future musical scholarships.

Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D., third from left, is joined by members of the Board of Education and guest during the three-hour musical show Friday night. From left are students rep to the board Audrey Joy Ada, BOE member Marylou Ada, Sablan, BOE chair Herman Guerrero, BOE member Janice Tenorio, and Rep. Edmund Villagomez.

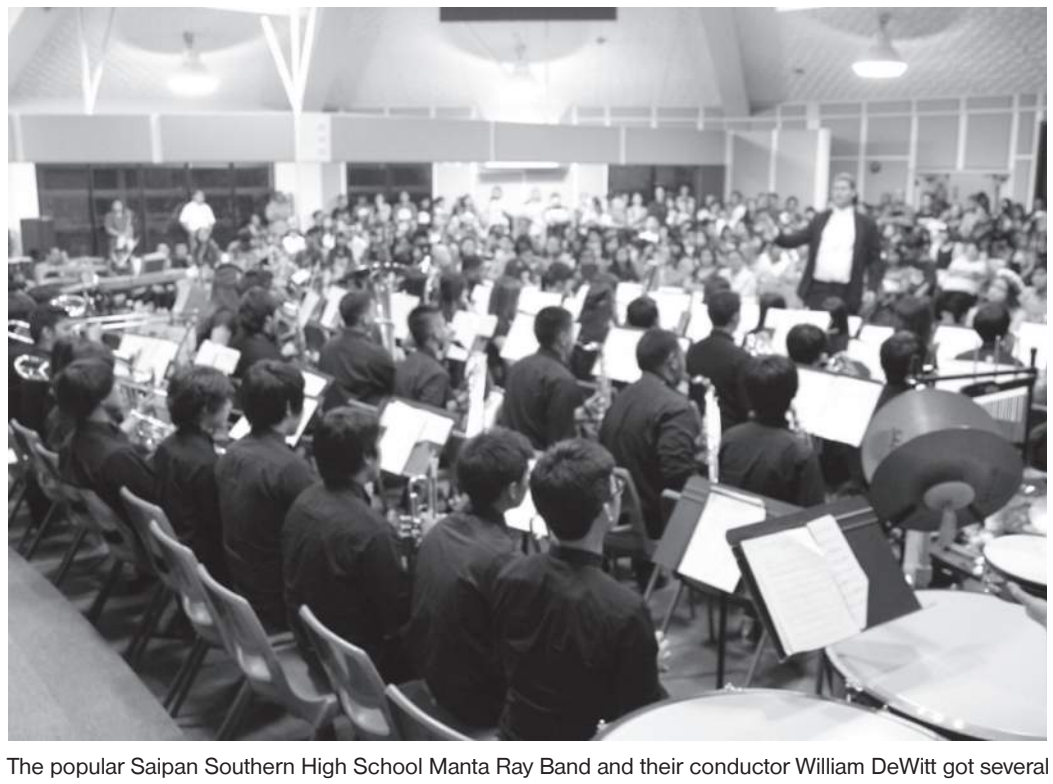
She said she was especially amazed by the performance of the Manta Ray Band, which wowed the crowd with its rendition of Whitney Houston's *Saving All My Love for You*, the movie soundtrack for *Pirates of the Caribbean*; *Captain America March*, and *Wade in the Water*, among others. She also cited the Rhythm N' Harmony for demonstrating excellence in their performance.

The Manta Band's rendition of *Mariana Variations*, which is a re-arrangement of the CNMI anthem, also stirred the crowd's sense of patriotism.

"By just hearing it…it made me truly proud of our public school system," said Board of Education member Marylou S. Ada.

Chielo Sayas knew about the various groups' victory in several competitions here and off-island but Friday was

The Marianas High School's Rhythm N' Harmony in their award-winning performance of *One Short Day* during Friday night show. The group is this year's Sweepstakes Trophy winner of the Guam Tumon Bay Music Festival.



The popular Saipan Southern High School Manta Ray Band and their conductor William DeWitt got several standing ovations Friday night.

The Koblerville Elementary School's Umang Glee Club performs Stand By Me. The group bagged the gold award in this year's Tumon Bay Music Festival in Guam.

The crowd gives an enthusiastic applause.

Students dance to *Gangnam Style* right after the finale.

Manta Band conductor William DeWitt conducts the finale performance Friday night.

The vocalists of Hopwood's HDMP Band in one of their high-energy performances Friday night. The band recently won the 2013 NMC Charter Day Battle of the Band competition.

The Dolphin PEP Band from Marianas High School in their special number that included a rendition of *La Bamba*, *Survivors*, and *Payphone*, among other pieces.

The equally energetic members of the HDMP Band.

Members of the education board and the Public School System join performers in their finale, *When You Believe*.

her first time to actually see them perform individually and in a group.

"Superb! Truly award-winning!" she said after the show, adding that as a mother of a student in PSS, seeing these talented musicians brings both pride and honor to herself as an education stakeholder. Like other attendees, she looks forward to another enchanting evening from the musicians next year.

The performers themselves were also excited to see their fellow students' performances. "I never saw them performing before…and I can say they're really good!" said a sixth grade member of the Oleai Elementary School Parade of Book team.

Also feeling proud throughout the night was Fernando Romolor, who came to support her daughter Andela Romolor, a member of MHS Dolphin Band.

"I am very proud not only for my daughter…but for all the students for what they have shown tonight! This show opens more gates of opportunities for our students in PSS and I want to congratulate PSS for doing a great job for our schoolchildren!" he said, adding that the music festival brings not only diversity to the show but a big inspiration for everybody.

Other individuals interviewed by *Saipan Tribune* had nothing but good words for their favorite groups, but everyone were unanimous in recognizing DeWitt for giving the crowd an extraordinary show.

'No sign of lawmakers'

If there's one thing that disappointed the Board of Education, it was the non-participation of lawmakers except for Rep. Edmund Villagomez, who was the only lawmaker seen enjoying the show.

"I wish more of our leaders are present tonight so they could see for themselves first-hand how amazing these kids are. This is a testimony [of] what is happening in our schools. We are blessed with truly talented students and all we just need to do is nurture them," said BOE chair Herman T. Guerrero, who vowed to make the event an annual celebration for the community.

Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D., was particularly amazed by the fact that most of the talents on exhibit Friday night were mostly "self-taught" while their performances speak about their individual school's unique character.

Friday night's event was standing-room-only and Sablan is now planning to bring the event outdoor. "This means that the PSS is strong and alive… and we will keep jamming on," she added.

Besides the spring music festival, she said the school year will be capped by another special event, the traditional performing arts, which is tentatively scheduled next month at the Hopwood Junior High School grounds.

Online registration for immigration practitioners

FALLS CHURCH, Va.—The Executive Office for Immigration Review announced yesterday that, effective June 10, 2013, it will rollout electronic registration for attorneys and fully accredited representatives who represent aliens in proceedings before EOIR's immigration courts and the Board of Immigration Appeals.

The eRegistry will be implemented as specified in the May 14, 2013, *Federal Register* Notice. After December 10, 2013, all attorneys and fully accredited representatives must have completed the registration process in order to appear as a representative before the immigration courts and the Board of Immigration Appeals.

Currently, immigration practitioners provide notice of their appearances before EOIR's adjudicators by submitting Form EOIR-27, "Notice of Entry of Appearance as Attorney or Representative Before the Board of Immigration Appeals" and Form EOIR-28, "Notice of Entry of Appearance as Attorney or Representative Before the Immigration Court".

The eRegistry, part of a long-term plan to create an electronic case access and filing system for the immigration courts and the Board of Immigration Appeals, will provide the means for EOIR to begin receiving electronic versions of the Form EOIR-27 and Form EOIR-28. The registry and electronic filing of these forms will offer attorneys and fully accredited representatives an electronic option that will reduce paperwork and increase efficiencies through real-time information-sharing, which will also enhance EOIR's ability to schedule, track and update cases. Registered attorneys and fully accredited representatives will also be able to use the stored information to pre-populate and electronically file entry of appearance forms.

"EOIR's stakeholders have long sought the ability to file electronically with the agency," said EOIR Director Juan P. Osuna. "The new online registration process is the first step toward a more vigorous electronic case system, which is part of our ongoing efforts to improve the efficiency of our adjudications."

Information about the online registration process is available at http://www.justice.gov/eoir/engage/eRegistration.htm. The agency will continue to update this page as appropriate, including information about identity verification specific to each immigration court. ***(EOIR)***

FRUIT-CARVING SESSION
Gineftao I ManMo'na, a non-profit organization on Tinian that focuses on youth development and other adult social services program, recently held a fruit-carving workshop at their Gineftao Service Center. Petra Cabrera, right, learns from the master.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BEH closes Hotel Galleria

The Bureau of Environmental Health closed down the operations of Hotel Galleria last month due to what it described as "serious violations of health and sanitation standards."

A total of 36 food and drinking retail establishments were inspected by BEH. Of the number only Hotel Galleria located in Garapan was closed after the bureau inspected the facility on April 8.

Meanwhile 28 establishments were given a grade of "A": Hafadai Beach Hotel, Hyatt Regency Saipan, CYC Kagman Market, Manufacture Noni Juice, Ton Kiku's, Ai Lian Store, Naked Fish Bar & Grill, Joeten Dandan, Mountain View Snack Bar, Toha Supermarket, San Jose Down Town Market, Nam Dae Moon Restaurant, Chung Giwa Restaurant, LKR Retail, Joeten Susupe Supermarket, Clarie's Market, Sunshine Garden Restaurant, Fiesta Resort & Spa (Managaha Islanda), J&N Mini Mart, Shenaniigan's Restaurant, Tai Yang Restaurant, David Market, KB Market, Five Star Wholesale, New Family Discount Market, Diamond Water, and Imoya Restaurant.

BEH also gave "B" grades to the seven establishments: Han Nam Super Market, Happiness Restaurant, Connie's BBQ & Fast Food, Sister Market, YZL Retail Store, Marianas Ice & Water, and Marg's Kitchen Retail & Bakery. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

Seatbelt, child seat checkpoints on Rota

The Department of Public Safety will be conducting occupant protection/child restraint checkpoints on Rota on four days.

On Monday, May 20, 2013, the first setup will be from 6:30am to 7:45am along the San Francisco Highway, Tatachog by the pavilion. The second set up will be from 9am to 10:15am along the San Francisco Highway, Pinatang area. The third setup is from 6pm to 7:15pm along the San Francisco Highway, Guata by the pavilion.

On Friday, May 24, 2013, the first setup is from 6:30am to 7:45am along the San Francisco Highway, Teteto area. The second setup is from 11:20am to 1:30pm along the San Francisco Highway, Tatachog area by the Mayor's Office. The third setup is from 6pm to 7:15pm along the San Francisco Highway, Lotgan area. The fourth setup is from 9pm to 10:15pm along the San Francisco Highway, Sinapalo 2 by the CUC office.

On Wednesday, May 29, 2013, the first setup will be from 6:30am to 7:45am along the San Francisco Highway, Sinapalo 3 area by the Children's Park. The second setup is from 11:20am to 12:15pm along the San Francisco Highway, Sonton area by former Sunset Villa Hotel. The third setup is from 3:15pm to 4:45pm by the San Francisco Highway, Tatachog area by the Mayor's Office. The fourth setup is from 6pm to 7:15pm along the San Francisco Highway, Teteto area.

On Saturday, June 1, 2013, the first setup is from 9am to 10:15am along the San Francisco Highway, Chiliat area. The second setup is from 12pm to 1:15pm along the San Francisco Highway, Igua area. The third setup is from 3pm to 4:15pm along the San Francisco Highway, Sinapalo 2 area by the CUC office.

Each checkpoint will last at least 75 minutes (1 hour and 15 minutes). This activity is part of the department's effort to detect and deter seatbelts and car seats violations, and to ensure that all passengers are wearing proper restraining devices, seatbelts or car seats.

Traffic and patrol officers will also be doing highway criminal interdictions, saturation patrols, aggressive driver interdictions, and laser (speed detection) enforcement. ***(DPS)***

$30K scholarship available at MCS in new school year

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Mount Carmel School president Galvin Deleon Guerrero announced yesterday the availability of $30,000 allotted by the institution for its scholars this upcoming school year.

Sensitive to the challenges many families are facing in the current recession, Mount Carmel School has unveiled several initiatives that will all provide financial assistance to students and their families. In addition to various discounts, MCS will award $30,000 in scholarships and financial aid for the upcoming 2013-2014 school year.

The $30,000 will be divided into three award categories, including $10,000 each for academic scholarships, for extra-curricular scholarships, and for financial aid. Each student may apply for one of the award categories and, if awarded, will receive $750 in assistance for the school year.

"As a Catholic school, we must put into practice the teachings of the Church. These new initiatives reflect the school's commitment to helping families," said Deleon Guerrero. "If a family chooses a Catholic education for their child or children, we must do all that we can to make that choice viable."

The school also has other initiatives to assist families. Families that enroll more than one child will receive discounts for each additional student: $600 off of tuition for the second child, $1,000 off of tuition for the third child, and $1,500 off of tuition for the fourth child.

Application forms for the scholarships and financial aid can be picked up at the school or downloaded from the school's website, www.mtcarmel-edu.net. All scholarship and financial applications are due by 5pm on Monday, June 3. For more information, call 234-6184 or email galvin.deleonguerrero@gmail.com.

Saipan school sues businessman for defamation

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Korean Community School of Saipan has filed a defamation lawsuit against a businessman over a news article that allegedly contained false and defamatory statements about the school.

The Korean Community School of Saipan, through counsel Colin M. Thompson, asked the Superior Court to hold Hong Kyun Kim and 10 unnamed co-defendants liable to for unspecified damages, attorney's fees, and court costs.

According to the complaint, Kim made false and defamatory statements against the school on May 12, 2011.

The defendants allegedly caused to be published a two-page article with the heading "Businessman: Korean school misinformed community to secure ETC (Earned Tax Credits) donations."

Thompson said the publication included false and defamatory statements that "a Korean businessman is questioning the dubious operation of the Korean Community School of Saipan which included providing 'false information' in order to secure educational tax credit donations."

On July 13, 2011, the same defendants caused to be published a one-page article with heading "Palacios says Korean school not using ETC donations for students," said Thompson.

He said Kim was the "businessman" who made and caused these statements that were published and that such publications were widely circulated throughout Saipan.

"As a direct and proximate result of the printing, publishing, and circulation of the untrue and libelous statements by defendant in the publication, the school has been exposed to public scorn, contempt, and ridicule," Thompson said.

He said the false statements in the publication injured the school's business reputation, deterring people from dealing with it and donating money for its operation.

"Plaintiff has had to expend thousands of dollars for audits of the school," Thompson said, adding that the school depends upon financial support from the public.

Kim recently filed a $1-million slander and libel lawsuit against the president of the Saipan Korean Community Association for allegedly distributing a publication accusing him of, among other things, committing multiple rape and sexual attacks.

Kim also recently filed a separate slander and libel suit against Byung Soo Jeon and nine unnamed persons for allegedly fabricating reports that accuse him of among other things, engaging in sex abuse and stealing a flagpole.

Business

Report: Yahoo nearing $1.1B acquisition of Tumblr

NEW YORK (AP)—Yahoo may be on the verge of closing its biggest acquisition during the 10-month reign of CEO Marissa Mayer as she tries to attract more traffic and advertisers to the Internet company's website and mobile applications.

The Sunnyvale, Calif., company's board of directors will meet Sunday evening to consider approving a $1.1 billion acquisition of online content-sharing site Tumblr in a deal Mayer negotiated, according to the technology news site All Things D. The story posted late Friday cited anonymous sources.

If Yahoo Inc.'s board signs off, the deal could be announced Monday.

In an invitation sent Friday, Yahoo promised to unveil "something special" Monday evening in New York. The event is being held in a Times Squares lounge located about two miles from Tumblr's headquarters.

Yahoo has only said that Mayer will be on hand to unveil something related to a product. A company spokeswoman didn't immediately respond to a request for comment about the potential Tumblr acquisition.

Buying Tumblr would fulfill Mayer's goal of reaching a wider audience on smartphones and tablet computers.

Tumblr serves up a constantly changing collage of stories, photos and other digital content served up by users who are increasingly connecting to the service through its mobile applications. The service is also one of the hottest sites among teens and young adults, a demographic that Mayer, 37, thinks Yahoo needs to do a better job of reaching.

If it's completed, the Tumblr deal would be Mayer's biggest coup—and, at the same time, the biggest risk—since she ended her 13-year career as a key executive at Google Inc. to try to snap Yahoo out of a prolonged malaise that had demoralized employees and investors alike.

Since her arrival, Mayer has been focused on redesigning several Yahoo services and bringing in more mobile engineering talent, primarily by buying a series of small startups.

None of those previous acquisitions have required Yahoo to dip too deeply into its bank account. Late last year, Yahoo paid a total of $7 million for two startups called OnTheAir and Stamped. In the first three months of this year, Yahoo snapped up three more startups for a total of $10 million, according to the company's regulatory filings.

Tumblr, founded in 2007 by its CEO David Karp, presumably would become a pivotal part of Mayer's effort to sell more advertising.

Mayer has been winning back

SSA launches mobile site for smartphone users

Carolyn W. Colvin, acting commissioner of Social Security, announced Friday that the agency is offering a new mobile optimized website, specifically aimed at smartphone users across the country. People visiting the agency's website, www.socialsecurity.gov, via smartphone (Android, Blackberry, iPhone, and Windows devices) will be redirected to the agency's new mobile-friendly site. Once there, visitors can access a mobile version of Social Security's Frequently Asked Questions, an interactive Social Security number decision tree to help people identify documents needed for a new/replacement SSN card, and mobile publications that they can listen to in both English and Spanish right on their phone.

"We are committed to meeting the changing needs of the American people and the launch of our new mobile site helps reinforce our online presence and adaptability to advances in technology," Colvin said. "I encourage all smartphone users looking for Social Security information to take advantage of our new mobile site."

In addition, visitors to the new mobile site can learn how to create a personal *my Social Security* account to get an online Social Security *Statement*, learn more about Social Security's award-winning online services, and connect with Social Security on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Pinterest. For people unable to complete their Social Security business online or over the telephone, the agency also unveiled a new mobile field office locator. The new mobile office locator has the capability to provide turn-by-turn directions to the nearest Social Security office based on information entered by the person.

"With significant budget cuts of nearly a billion dollars each year over the last few years, we must continue to leverage technology and find more innovative ways to meet the evolving needs of the American public without compromising service," said Colvin.

Each year, more than 35 million Social Security web page views come via smartphones.

For more information, go to www.socialsecurity.gov. ***(SSA)***

Bank of Guam names its newest VP

HAGATNA, Guam—The board of directors, management and staff of Bank of Guam are pleased to announce the appointment of Maria Eugenia H. Leon Guerrero to vice president/Lean Six Sigma Champion & strategic planning officer.

Leon Guerrero

Leon Guerrero is a graduate of Guam's St. John's School, earning her undergraduate degree in International Studies at the University of Washington in 2001. She completed her master of Business Administration from the University of Washington Foster Business School in 2009 and joined Bank of Guam the same year as a management trainee. In 2011, Leon Guerrero was named to oversee the bank's Six Sigma Program and became its strategic planning officer. ***(BOG)***

Pew survey questions Gen X, baby boomer savings

By MARLEY SEAMAN
AP BUSINESS WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—A research report by the Pew Charitable Trusts says younger baby boomers and Generation Xers face an uncertain retirement because of reduced savings, high levels of debt, and losses during the Great Recession.

The study found that members of Generation X, who are now between 38 and 47 years old, lost almost half their wealth between 2007 and 2010. Young baby boomers, who are between 48 and 57, lost more money but a smaller portion of their overall wealth. The report says both of those groups are struggling to save enough money for retirement and are lagging older groups in terms of their savings. They also hold more debt than those groups did at similar points in their lives.

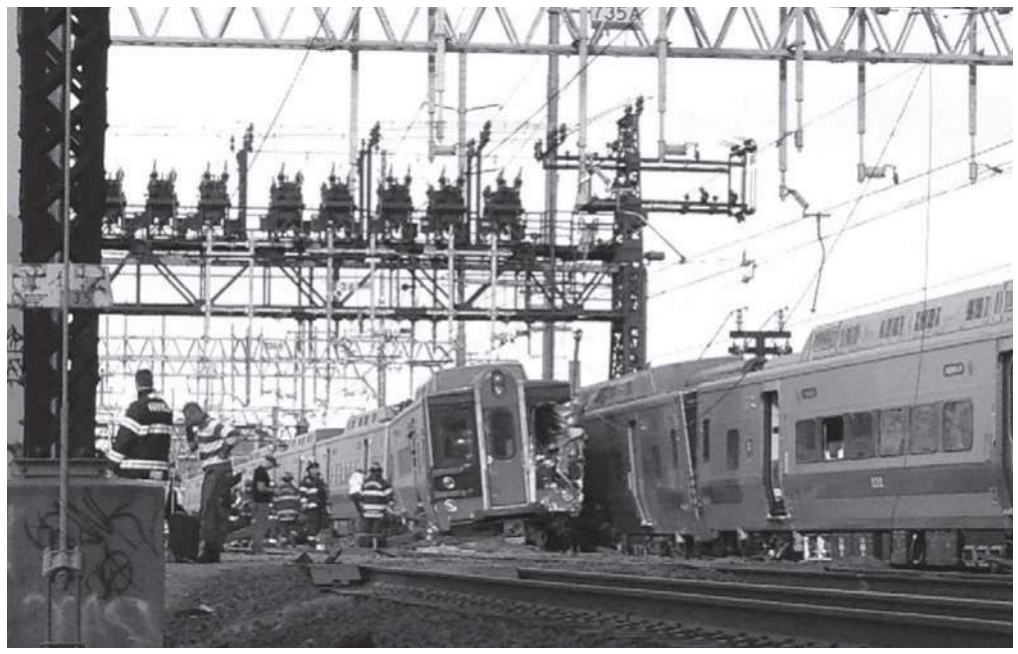
"Early boomers may be the last cohort on track to retire with enough savings and assets to maintain their financial security through their golden years," said the authors.

The report is based on the Survey of Consumer Finances, which is conducted every three years by the Federal Reserve, and the Panel Study of Income Dynamics, which has followed a group of families since 1968. It takes into account financial assets like savings accounts and retirement accounts, nonfinancial assets like business properties, and home equity minus debt.

Members of Generation X were born between 1966 and 1975. The report divides the baby-boom generation into two groups: early boomers, who were born between 1946 and 1955 and are now 58 to 67, and late boomers, who were born between 1956 and 1965. They were compared to people who were born between 1926 and 1935, around the time of the Great Depression, and people who were born from 1936 to 1945, closer to or during World War II.

Nation

Probe into Conn. train crash giving way to cleanup



Emergency workers arrive the scene of a train collision, Friday, may 17, 2013 in Fairfield, Conn. AP

BRIDGEPORT, Conn. (AP)—Investigators will look closely at a broken section of rail to see if it is connected to the commuter train derailment and collision outside New York City that left dozens injured, as the focus begins to shift toward cleanup and rebuilding ahead of challenging times for travelers and commuters along the Northeast Corridor.

A member of the National Transportation and Safety Board said Saturday that a fractured section of rail is of substantial interest to investigators and a portion of the track will be sent to a lab for analysis. Officials also said Saturday the incident was not the result of foul play.

It's not clear if the accident caused the fracture or if the rail was broken before the crash, the NTSB's Earl Weener said. He emphasized the investigation was in its early stages and said he won't speculate on the cause of the derailment. Data recorders on board are expected to provide the speed of the Metro-North trains at the time of the crash and other information, he said.

Seventy-two people were sent to the hospital Friday evening after a Metro-North train heading east from New York City derailed and was hit by a train heading west from New Haven. Most have been discharged.

Officials earlier described devastating damage and said it was fortunate no one was killed.

"I feel that we are fortunate that even more injuries were not the result of this very tragic and unfortunate accident," said U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal, who visited several patients in the hospital.

The crash damaged the tracks and threatened to snarl travel in the Northeast. The crash also caused Amtrak to suspend service between New York and Boston.

Blumenthal called the damage "absolutely staggering,"

Attention is slowly shifting to the cleanup, restoration—and the upcoming work week.

Metro-North said train service will remain suspended between South Norwalk and New Haven until further notice. Railroad officials said rebuilding the two tracks and restoring train service "will take well into next week."

Up to 6o injured after car drives into Va. parade

DAMASCUS, Va. (AP)—An elderly driver plowed into dozens of hikers marching in a Saturday parade in a small Virginia mountain town and investigators were looking into whether he suffered a medical emergency before the accident.

About 50 to 60 people suffered injuries ranging from critical to superficial, but no fatalities were reported. Three of the worst injured were flown by helicopter to area hospitals. Their conditions weren't immediately available.

Another 12 to 15 victims were taken to hospitals by ambulance and the rest were treated at the scene, where some paramedics and other first-responders were participating in the parade.

It happened around 2:10 p.m. during the Hikers Parade at the Trail Days festival, an annual celebration of the Appalachian Trail in Damascus, near the Tennessee state line about a half-hour drive east of Bristol.

Damascus Police Chief Bill Nunley didn't release the driver's name or age but said he was participating in the parade and he had traversed the Appalachian Trail in the past. Multiple witnesses described him as an elderly man.

Nunley said the man's 1997 Cadillac was one of the last vehicles in the parade and the driver might have suffered an unspecified medical problem when his car accelerated to about 25 mph and struck the crowd on a two-lane bridge along the town's main road. The driver was among those taken to hospitals.

$590M-plus Powerball: 1 winning ticket sold in Fla

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP)—It's all about the odds, and one lone ticket in Florida has beaten them all by matching each of the numbers drawn for the highest Powerball jackpot in history at an estimated $590.5 million, lottery officials said Sunday.

The single winner was sold at a Publix supermarket in Zephyrhills, Fla., according to Florida Lottery executive Cindy O'Connell. She told The Associated Press by telephone that more details would be released later.

"This would be the sixth Florida Powerball winner and right now, it's the sole winner of the largest ever Powerball jackpot," O'Connell told AP. "We're delighted right now that we have the sole winner."

She said Florida has had more Powerball winners than any other state.

The winner was not immediately identified publicly and O'Connell did not give any indication just hours after Saturday's drawing whether anyone had already stepped forward with that winning ticket.

With four out of every five possible combinations of Powerball numbers in play, lottery executives said earlier that someone was almost certain to win the game's highest jackpot, a windfall of hundreds of millions of dollars—and that's after taxes.

Saturday night's winning numbers were 10, 13, 14, 22 and 52, with a Powerball of 11.

Estimates had earlier put the jackpot at around $600 million. But Powerball's online site said early Sunday that its latest tabulations of all tickets sold put that jackpot at an estimated $590.5 million.

Asia

SKorea says NKorea fires 3 short-range missiles

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea fired three short-range guided missiles into its eastern waters on Saturday, a South Korean official said. It routinely tests such missiles, but the latest launches came during a period of tentative diplomacy aimed at easing tensions.

The North fired two missiles Saturday morning and another in the afternoon, South Korean Defense Ministry spokesman Kim Min-seok said by phone. He said the North's intent was unclear. His ministry said it is watching North Korea carefully in case it conducts a provocation against South Korea.

In March, North Korea launched what appeared to be two KN-02 missiles off its east coast. Experts believe the country is trying to improve the range and accuracy of its arsenal.

North Korea recently withdrew two mid-range "Musudan" missiles believed to be capable of reaching Guam after moving them to its east coast earlier this year, U.S. officials said. The North is banned from testing ballistic missiles under U.N. Security Council resolutions.

Earlier this year, North Korea threatened nuclear strikes on Seoul and Washington because of annual U.S.-South Korean military drills and U.N. sanctions imposed over its third nuclear test in February. The drills ended late last month. This past month, the U.S. and South Korea ended another round of naval drills involving a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier off the east coast. North Korea calls such drills preparation to invade the North.

Philippines fears for workers in Taiwan amid row

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine envoy to Taiwan on Friday advised thousands of Filipino workers there to eat at home and avoid the streets while emotions run high on the island over the shooting death of a fisherman by the Philippine coast guard.

Philippine representative Amadeo Perez said after returning to Manila from Taipei late Thursday that his government has verified at least one attack, in which a Filipino was beaten with a bat.

"He was brought to a hospital and police are investigating. We are documenting the cases," he said.

Taiwan has frozen the hiring of Filipino workers, cut trade exchanges and discouraged travel to the Philippines because of the fisherman's death. Its government brushed aside an apology from the Philippine president as insufficient.

Taipei is demanding compensation, investigation, punishment and negotiations on a fishing agreement. Perez said that there additional demands, which he did not specify before reporting to Philippine President Benigno Aquino III.

"At this time, Taiwanese people are emotional and tension is high," Perez said. "We advised Filipinos there not to leave home as much as possible. Eat your meals at home, and just commute directly between home and work for now."

Nearly 87,000 Filipinos work in Taiwan, a fraction of the roughly 10 million who work abroad to escape poverty and unemployment at home.

Perez said he may recommend the repatriation of Filipinos if the need arises. "We will not abandon our people," he added.

The Taiwanese government has asked Taiwanese to behave correctly with Filipinos.

Filipino workers in Taiwan who were interviewed by Manila radio stations complained that some shops refused to sell them goods and restaurants would not serve them.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Death toll in collapsed Indonesia mine rises to 6

TIMIKA, Indonesia (AP)—Rescuers have pulled another body from a collapsed facility at a giant U.S.-owned gold and copper mine in Indonesia, bringing the death toll to six. The Big Gossan underground training facility at the PT Freeport Indonesia mine collapsed Tuesday when 38 workers were undergoing safety training. Ten miners were rescued. PT Freeport Indonesia says rescuers found the body of a 28-year-old miner buried under tons of rocks and soil early Sunday. They're searching for 22 others who remain trapped and are feared dead. Mining operations at the Grasberg mine in the easternmost province of Papua have been suspended since Tuesday to pay respects to the victims and to concentrate on rescue operations. The company said the accident was expected to have no significant impact on its operations.

Member of Pakistani cricket star's party killed

KARACHI, Pakistan (AP)—Police say gunmen on a motorcycle have shot and killed a senior member of a leading Pakistani political party. Police officer Sarfaraz Nawaz says Zohra Shahid was gunned down outside her home in the city of Karachi in southern Sindh province. Shahid was the vice president of former Pakistani cricket star Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party in Sindh. No one has claimed responsibility for the killing. Khan's party has claimed it was the victim of vote rigging in several areas of Pakistan, including Karachi, in national elections held on May 11. Pakistan's election commission plans to re-do the vote for several national assembly seats, including in Karachi. A spokesman for Khan's party, Jamal Siddiqui, claimed Shahid was killed to sabotage a re-vote scheduled to be held in Karachi on Sunday.

Chinese premier heads to India to boost ties

NEW DELHI (AP)—Just weeks after a tense border standoff, China's new premier headed to India on Sunday for his first foreign trip as the neighboring giants look to speed up efforts to settle a decades-old boundary dispute and boost economic ties. China says Premier Li Keqiang's choice of India for his first trip abroad since taking office in March shows the importance Beijing attaches to improving relations with New Delhi. "We think very highly of this gesture because it is our view that high-level political exchanges between our two countries are an important aspect and vehicle for our expanded cooperation," said India's external affairs ministry spokesman, Syed Akbaruddin. Jasjit Singh, a defense analyst and director of the Center for Strategic and International Studies in New Delhi, said last month's border standoff was unlikely to overshadow Li's three-day visit to India, which kicks off a foreign tour that will also see Li visiting Pakistan, Switzerland and Germany.

64 including Saudi Arabian woman scale Everest

KATMANDU, Nepal (AP)—Mountaineering officials say 64 climbers, including a Saudi Arabian woman, have successfully scaled Mount Everest from Nepal's side of the mountain. Tilak Padney of Nepal's Mountaineering Department says 35 foreigners accompanied by 29 Nepalese Sherpa guides reached the 8,850-meter (29,035-foot) peak on Saturday morning after climbing all night from the highest camp on South Col. All were reported to be safe. Among them was Raha Moharrak, who became the first Saudi Arabian woman to scale the world's highest peak. Everest can be climbed from either Nepal or Tibet. May is the most popular month for Everest climbs because of more favorable weather.

World

Assad: Syria transition talks are internal matter

BEIRUT (AP)—Syrian President Bashar Assad said in a newspaper interview Saturday he won't step down before elections and that the United States has no right to interfere in his country's politics, raising new doubts about a U.S-Russian effort to get Assad and his opponents to negotiate an end to the country's civil war.

Assad

In the capital Damascus, a car bomb killed at least three people and wounded five, according to Syrian state TV. It said bomb experts dismantled other explosives in the area.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, an activist group, said eight people were killed, including four members of the security forces. Discrepancies in death tolls are common in the chaotic aftermath of bombings in Syria.

Assad's comments to the Argentine newspaper Clarin were the first about his political future since Washington and Moscow agreed earlier this month to try to bring the Syrian regime and the opposition to an international conference for talks about a peaceful resolution to the conflict. The U.S. and Russia have backed opposite sides in the conflict, but appear to have found common ground in the diplomatic push.

The White House and the Kremlin envision holding the meeting next month, but no date has been set. Neither Assad nor the Syrian National Coalition, the main Western-backed coalition group, has made a firm commitment to attend.

Attacks kill 16 in Iraq, 8 police kidnapped

BAGHDAD (AP)—A string of attacks killed at least 16 people in Iraq on Saturday, while gunmen abducted eight policemen guarding a post on the country's main highway to Jordan and Syria, the latest in a wave of violence to grip the country.

The shootings and bombings follow three days of attacks that killed 130 people in both Shiite and Sunni areas in scenes reminiscent of retaliatory attacks between the two groups that pushed the country to the brink of civil war in 2006-2007. The spike in bloodshed in recent weeks has raised fears the country may be heading toward a new round of sectarian conflict.

Tensions have been worsening since Iraq's minority Sunnis began protesting what they say is mistreatment at the hands of the Shiite-led government, including random detentions and neglect. The mass demonstrations, which began in December, have largely been peaceful, but the number of attacks rose sharply after a deadly security crackdown on a Sunni protest camp in northern Iraq on April 23.

Majority Shiites control the levers of power in post-Saddam Hussein Iraq. Wishing to rebuild the nation rather than revert to open warfare, they have largely restrained their militias in the past five years or so as Sunni extremist groups such as al-Qaida have frequently targeted them with large-scale attacks. But the sharp jump in attacks on Sunni areas, including bombings on Friday that killed at least 76 people, has fueled concerns of renewed retaliatory killings.

In Saturday's deadliest attack, gunmen broke into the house of an anti-terrorism police captain in the southern suburbs of Baghdad, killing the officer and his family in their sleep. Police officials identified the dead as Cap. Adnan Ibrahim, his wife and two children, aged eight and 10.

The attackers fled the scene, and killed another policeman who tried to stop them at a nearby checkpoint.

French president signs gay marriage into law

PARIS (AP)—France will see its first gay weddings within days, after French President Francois Hollande signed a law Saturday authorizing marriage and adoption by same-sex couples and ending months of nationwide protests and wrenching debate.

Hollande's office said he signed the bill Saturday morning, a day after the Constitutional Council struck down a challenge to the law and ruled it in line with France's constitution.

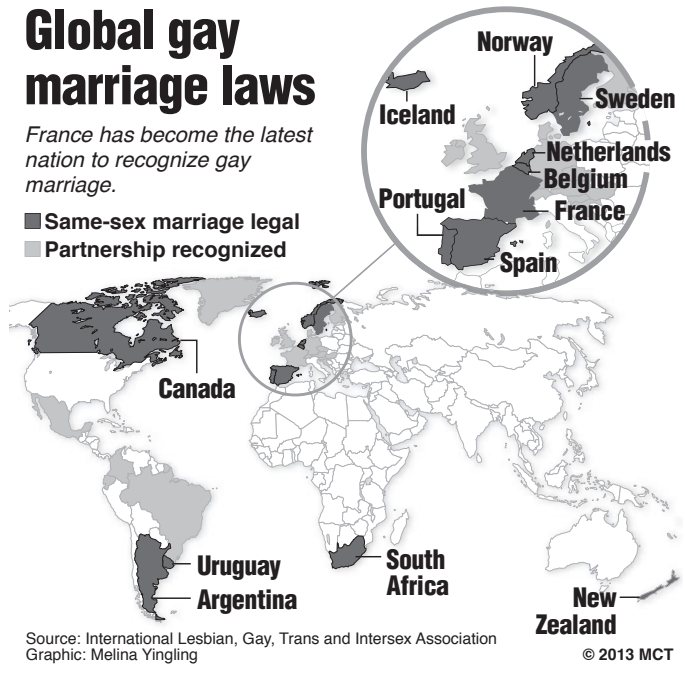
Hollande, a Socialist, had made legalizing gay marriage one of his campaign pledges last year. While polls for years have shown majority support for gay marriage in France, adoption by same-sex couples is more controversial.

The parliamentary debate exposed a deep conservatism and attachment to traditional families in France's rural core that is often eclipsed by and at odds with libertine Paris.

But mostly, it tapped into deep discontent with the Socialist government, largely over Hollande's handling of the economy. Months of anti-gay marriage protests became a flashpoint for frustrations with Hollande, and occasionally degenerated into violence.

In addition, gay rights groups reported a rise in attacks on homosexuals as the parliamentary debate was under way. Protest organizers distanced themselves from the trouble-makers.

The opposition isn't ready to give up. It plans a protest May 26 that aims to parlay the success of the anti-gay marriage movement into a broader anti-Hollande one. Among those expected to attend is Jean-Francois Cope, the leader of the opposition UMP party, riven by divisions and struggling for direction since Nicolas Sarkozy lost the presidency last year.



Health & Fitness

Study questions how sharply US should cut the salt

By LAURAN NEERGAARD
AP MEDICAL WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP)—A surprising new report questions public health efforts to get Americans to sharply cut back on salt, saying it's not clear whether eating super-low levels is worth the struggle.

Make no mistake: Most Americans eat way too much salt, not just from salt shakers but because of sodium hidden inside processed foods and restaurant meals. Tuesday's report stresses that, overall, the nation needs to ease back on the sodium for better heart health.

But there's no good evidence that eating very low levels—below the 2,300 milligrams a day that the government recommends for most people—offers benefits even though national guidelines urge that certain high-risk patients do just that, the Institute of Medicine concluded.

Also, there are some hints, albeit from studies with serious flaws, that eating the lowest levels might actually harm certain people—those who are being aggressively treated for serious heart failure, the report added.

The prestigious group, which advises the government about health, urged more and better research to settle the best target range.

"We're not saying we shouldn't be lowering excessive salt intake," said Dr. Brian Strom of the University of Pennsylvania, who led the IOM committee. But below 2,300 mg a day, "there is simply a lack of data that shows it is beneficial."

The average American consumes more than 3,400 mg of sodium a day, equivalent to 1 1/2 teaspoons. Current U.S. dietary guidelines say most people should limit that to 2,300 mg a day, while certain people—those older than 50, African-Americans, and people with high blood pressure, diabetes or chronic kidney disease—should aim for just 1,500 mg.

Tuesday's report sparked an immediate outcry from health organizations that have long battled to lower the nation's salt consumption.

The American Heart Association said it stood by its own recommendations, stricter than the government's, that everyone eat no more than 1,500 mg of sodium a day. Studies make clear that eating less sodium helps lower blood pressure, and lower blood pressure in turn leads to less heart disease, said heart association spokesman Dr. Elliott Antman, a cardiologist at Boston's Brigham and Women's Hospital.

AP

Salt shakers and other condiments sit on a beverage dispenser table at a Boston Market restaurant in Alexandria, Va., Tuesday, May 14, 2013.

"We're sticking where we have the most solid evidence," Antman said.

What to study is key to the debate: The IOM committee was asked to examine whether eating less salt directly affects longer-term outcomes such as heart attacks and death. That's harder to prove, especially since the panel stressed many of the studies it reviewed had quality problems. Among those problems, Antman said, was including some patients too sick for diet to matter.

Debating how little salt is too little is a moot point, added nutritionist Bonnie Liebman of the Center for Science in the Public Interest.

"The average American is still in the red zone, the danger zone," she said.

The salt industry, in contrast, has long opposed the push for sharp sodium reductions and welcomed the report.

"There is no scientific justification for population-wide sodium reduction to such low levels, and the recognition by the IOM experts that such low levels may cause harm may help steer overzealous organizations away from reckless recommendations," said Morton Satin of the Salt Institute.

Some salt is necessary for good health, although it's not clear exactly how much.

But today, it's very hard to cut back to 1,500 mg unless you always cook from scratch, or eat too little food in general because of illness, Liebman added. Three-quarters of people's daily sodium come from processed or restaurant food. The average sandwich in a restaurant has 1,000 mg or more, and some restaurant meals can provide a full day's supply of sodium in one entree, she said.

Tiny preemies get a boost from live music therapy

CHICAGO (AP)—As the guitarist strums and softly sings a lullaby in Spanish, tiny Augustin Morales stops squirming in his hospital crib and closes his eyes.

This is therapy in a newborn intensive care unit, and research suggests that music may help those born way too soon adapt to life outside the womb.

Some tiny preemies are too small and fragile to be held and comforted by human touch, and many are often fussy and show other signs of stress. Other common complications include immature lungs, eye disease, problems with sucking, and sleeping and alertness difficulties.

Recent studies and anecdotal reports suggest the vibrations and soothing rhythms of music, especially performed live in the hospital, might benefit preemies and other sick babies.

Many insurers won't pay for music therapy because of doubts that it results in any lasting medical improvement. Some doctors say the music works best at relieving babies' stress and helping parents bond with infants too sick to go home.

But amid beeping monitors, IV poles and plastic breathing tubes in infants' rooms at Chicago's Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital, music therapist Elizabeth Klinger provides a soothing contrast that even the tiniest babies seem to notice

"What music therapy can uniquely provide is that passive listening experience that just encourages relaxation for the patient, encourages participation by the family," Klinger said after a recent session in Augustin's hospital room.

The baby's parents, Lucy Morales and Alejandro Moran, stood at the crib and whispered lovingly to their son as Klinger played traditional lullabies, singing in Spanish and English.

"The music relaxes him, it makes him feel more calm" and helps him sleep better too, Lucy Morales said. "Sometimes it makes us cry."

Some families request rock music or other high-tempo songs, but Klinger always slows the beat to make it easier on tender ears.

"A lot of times families become afraid of interacting with their children because they are so sick and so frail, and music provides them something that they can still do," Klinger said, who works full time as a music therapist but her services are provided for free.

Music therapists say live performances in hospitals are better than recorded music because patients can feel the music vibrations and also benefit from seeing the musicians.

More than two dozen U.S. hospitals offer music therapy in their newborn intensive care units and its popularity is growing, said Joanne Loewy, a music therapist who directs a music and medicine program at Beth Israel Medical Center in New York.

Preemies' music therapy was even featured on a recent episode of the hit TV show "American Idol," when show finalist Kree Harrison watched a therapist working with a tiny baby at Children's Hospital Los Angeles.

"Music is such a huge part of our lives and to do something like this, make it a sort of healing process, is a cool thing," Harrison said on the April 25 episode.

Dr. Natalia Henner, a newborn specialist at Lurie hospital, said studies in nursing journals show music therapy for preemies "does help with promoting growth. And there's some good literature ... saying that the time to discharge is a little bit shorter in babies who've been exposed to more music therapy."

She said it "definitely facilitates bonding" between parents of preemies and other babies too sick to go home.

Loewy led a study published last month in the journal Pediatrics, involving 11 U.S. hospitals. Therapists in the study played special small drums to mimic womb sounds and timed the rhythm to match the infants' heartbeats. The music appeared to slow the infants' heartbeats, calm their breathing, and improve sucking and sleeping, Loewy said.

Personal Trainer
Shin splints and inactivity
Lower leg pain is a common consequence of exercising too hard or improperly after months of inactivity.
Calf muscles:
Gastrocnemius
Soleus
How they begin
• After two or three weeks of running or playing such sports as field hockey and soccer
Where it hurts
• Inside of calf, along the lower leg bones and calf muscles
• Dull ache in both legs
Wrong shoes
• Worn-out or improper shoes can easily cause repetitive muscle stress
Finding relief
• Exercise less intensively until pain goes away
• Apply an ice bag for 20 minutes after exercise
• Calf stretching before exercise
• Changing from running to nonweight-bearing exercise (swimming, cycling)
• Orthotics to improve shoe fit
• Compression taping
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Graphic: Helen Lee McComas and Paul Trap
Source: Atlantic Coast Conference

Life & Style

Retirement tests if David Beckham built lasting brand

By LORI HINNANT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PARIS (AP)—David Beckham's pecs are at least as much a part of his brand as his kick; his brand of shoes ultimately more lucrative than the game he's giving up. Listed as the world's highest-earning athlete for 2013, Beckham's retirement from play still leaves him with valuable endorsements and unparalleled celebrity. The question is whether he can maintain it.

Only a few athletes, once their job is preceded by 'ex,' manage to maintain a connection with fans: Those who have carefully built up their image beforehand.

Michael Jordan retired from basketball for the third time in 2003 and turned 50 this year. His eponymous Nike brand—a partnership that dates back to the first days after he left the University of North Carolina for the Chicago Bulls—is still going strong. The Jordan brand makes up nearly 60 percent of the American basketball shoe market, and a significant part of the estimated $80 million that Jordan reportedly earns each year from ventures that also include deals with Hanes and Gatorade, according to Forbes magazine.

At the height of his popularity, Jordan "was just inescapable, and I think Beckham has had that kind of quality up to now," said Ellis Cashmore, a British sociologist and author of the book "Beckham."

Even having given up his salary at Paris Saint-Germain, the French soccer club where he's ending his career, Beckham topped this year's Sports Illustrated list of 20 highest-earning international athletes (his estimated $48 million in earnings—most from sponsorship—would rank third on the magazine's list if American athletes are also included). He has deals with Adidas, Samsung and H&M and has his own cologne. The UK's Sunday Times Sports Rich Lost puts his estimated wealth at some 165 million pounds ($250 million).

The question, Cashmore said, is whether his celebrity will last once he's no longer on the field.

"Beckham was the first athlete to transcend sport," he said. "Leaving soccer is a little bit of a gamble because they don't know if Beckham decoupled from his sport is going to be as powerful as a brand."

Tiger Woods, whose career arc looked a lot like Beckham's until it imploded in marital scandals, is still having a hard time reconnecting with fans—and endorsements. The 37-year-old earned a reported $40 million, according to the Sports Illustrated tally this year, and Nike is using him in television ads again. But this year's survey reported just $33 million in endorsements, down from $105 million in 2007.

Thanks to his years with the LA Galaxy, Beckham's popularity is high even in the U.S., where soccer runs distinctly behind basketball, baseball and football, according to Henry Schafer, executive vice president Q Scores Company, which measures celebrity awareness and popularity.

But he'll have a hard time matching the endurance of Jordan who—a decade after retirement—tops the Q Score list of all athletes, Schafer said. Woods was the only athlete to come close to surpassing the former Chicago Bull, Schafer said, and that's no longer even a remote possibility.

As for Beckham, "I would put him in the category as having the right qualities to extend his playing days," said Schafer, who said former NBA star Magic Johnson, NHL player Wayne Gretzky and boxing great Muhammad Ali among the other top retired athletes who've kept up their images.

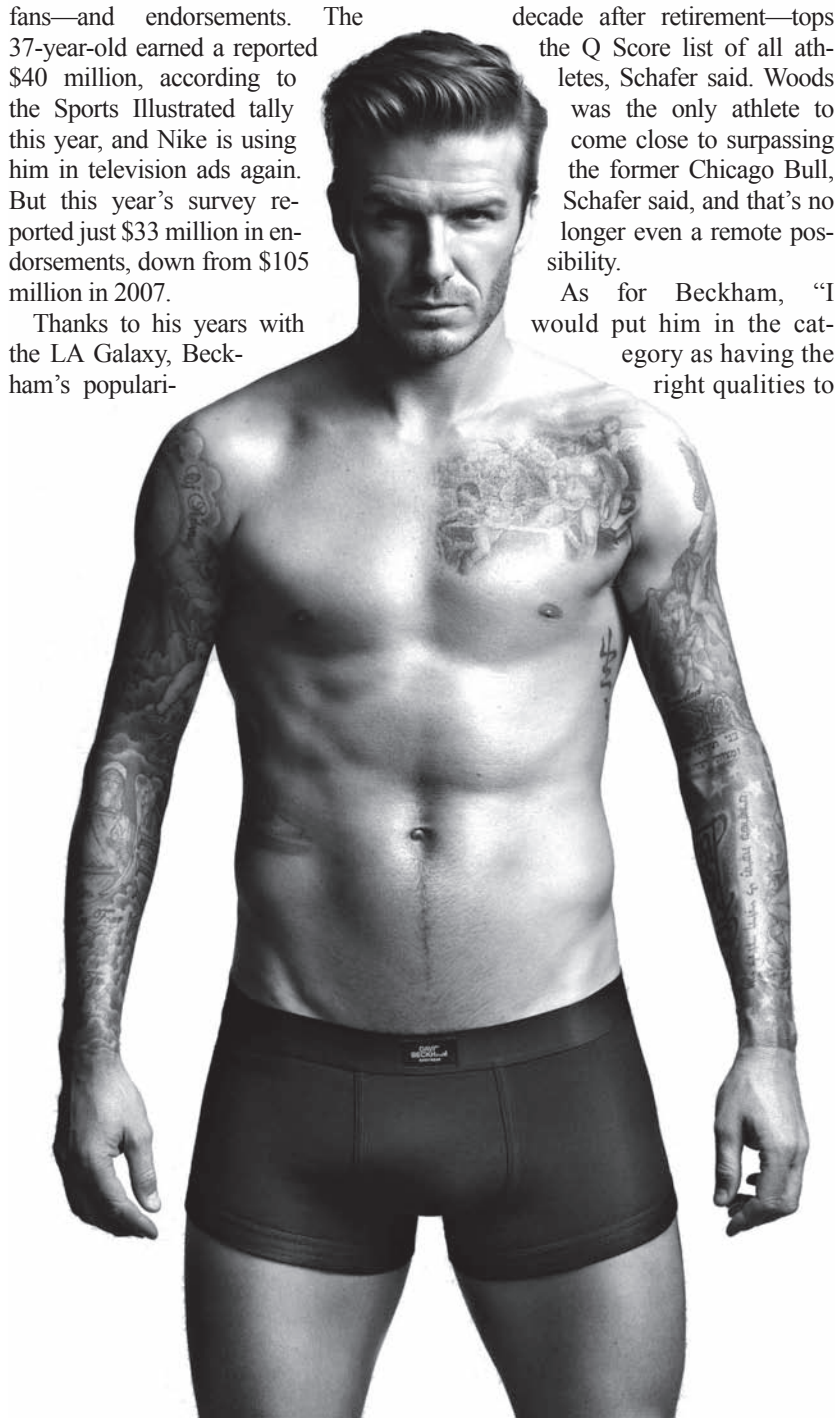
Brand Beckham, however, isn't just David. His wife Victoria runs a fashion house which is beginning to gain traction. And there's a rising generation of Beckhams as well: eldest son Romeo features in ads for Burberry's spring/summer 2013 collection.

Jean-Noel Kapferer, a marketing analyst at HEC, warned Beckham's glow could fade unless he shows he's putting in an effort.

"Up to now, the image of David Beckham balanced between the tangible—the presence on the field of an exceptional player with a magic touch—and the intangible—the handsome guy who imprints his style on modern man," he told the French newspaper l'Equipe. "The risk for him is that he's not doing anything but making money."

If nothing else, Cashmore said, Beckham—who owns a company called Beckham Brand Ltd.—has inculcated a new generation of athletes to think far into their futures, beyond the actual game.

"Gone are the Chariots of Fire days of the 1920s," he said. Now, in large part because of Beckham, the question even young teens with talent ask themselves is more calculating: "How am I going to monetize myself?"



AP

This undted photo provided by H&M shows a look from the collection created and modeled by David Beckham.

Denmark's de Forest wins Eurovision song contest

AP

Winner of the 2013 Eurovision Song Contest Emmelie de Forest of Denmark who sang Only Teardrops, celebrates with the trophy after the final at the Malmo Arena in Malmo, Sweden, Saturday, May 18, 2013.

MALMO, Sweden (AP)—Denmark's Emmelie de Forest has won this year's Eurovision Song Contest with her ethno-inspired flute and drum tune "Only Teardrops," despite tough competition from spectacular stage shows by performers from Azerbaijan and Ukraine.

Juries and television viewers across Europe awarded the barefoot, hippie-chic 20-year-old for the catchy love song that is driven by her deep, Shakira-like voice. She received a total of 281 points in the glitzy music battle, which also featured a bizarre opera pop number from Romania, the comeback of "Total Eclipse of the Heart" star Bonnie Tyler and an Armenian rock song written by the guitarist of Black Sabbath.

"It was overwhelming and I could really feel the fans and the audience and the people in the arena," de Forest told reporters after the winners were announced early Sunday.

"Of course I believed in the song and I thought we had a great song, but that's the exciting thing with Eurovision, you never know what's going to happen," she added.

De Forest grew up in northern Denmark and has been singing since she was 14, touring around Denmark with the Scottish musician Fraser Neill. She said it is important to be persistent to succeed as a young musician.

"I just called and emailed like a lot of festivals, music places and a lot of times I got no, but you just have to believe in yourself and keep trying, trying, trying—be outgoing and talk to new people, just call them and don't be afraid," she said.

De Forest was followed by second-place winner Farid Mammadov of Azerbaijan, who got 234 points for the song "Hold Me," which he performed on top of a glass cubicle containing a male dancer. The Ukraine's Zlata Ognevich and her song "Gravity" finished third with 214 points.

Ognevich was carried onstage in Saturday night's finals by the tallest man in the U.S.—Ukrainian-born Igor Vovkovinskiy. Vovkovinskiy—who stands 7 feet, 8 inches (234 centimeters)—wobbled onstage in a fur and feathers, placing the fairy-like Ognevich on a rock where she stood for the rest of the performance.

The televised extravaganza, with an audience of 125 million worldwide, is now in its 58th year. Once again without fail, it produced a mix of bubblegum pop songs, somber ballads, bagpipes, accordions and bizarrely kitsch musical productions.

In an opening video, soccer great Zlatan Ibrahimovic welcomed the viewers to the competition in his hometown Malmo, in southern Sweden. The Nordic country hosted the event because its contestant Loreen won last year with "Euphoria."

Bieber will have to pay for German monkey business

BERLIN (AP)—Justin Bieber will face a bill for thousands of euros (dollars) for his pet monkey's two-month stay at an animal shelter since it was seized by German customs, officials said Friday as a deadline expired for him to reclaim the animal.

Bieber

A spokesman for Munich's customs office said the teenage singer had until midnight Friday to contact them, otherwise capuchin monkey Mally will be transferred to a permanent home at a zoo or animal park elsewhere in Germany.

"If no further documents arrive then the seizure order comes into effect and the animal becomes the property of the German state," customs spokesman Thomas Meister told The Associated Press. The deadline fell after offices closed for a three-day holiday weekend in Germany, and it won't be clear before Tuesday whether the documents arrived.

Mally was seized by German customs March 28 when Bieber failed to produce required vaccination and import papers after landing in Munich while on tour.

The now 20-week-old animal was quarantined and cared for at Munich's animal shelter, where manager Karl Heinz Joachim said Mally had fared well and gained weight.

The shelter has criticized Bieber for keeping such a young monkey as a pet, saying it shouldn't have been taken away from its mother until it was a year old. Experts say capuchin monkeys also need to be kept in groups as they are very sociable animals.

"The best thing would be not to buy one at all, but if you do, buy five," said Joachim.

He said emails from Bieber's management to the animal shelter indicated the singer doesn't want the monkey anymore, but that the final decision would have to be made by German authorities.

"Our contact is the person that the monkey belongs to," said Meister, the customs office spokesman. "We've had contact with lots of people but none of them was an authorized representative."

Meister said the cost of care, food and vet visits at the Munich shelter amounted to several thousand euros (dollars).

"You can bet we are going to ask for that money back," he said.

‘Catching Fire’ dampened but not drowned at Cannes

CANNES, France (AP)—Little could lessen the fever-pitched excitement for “Hunger Games: Catching Fire,” but heavy rain nevertheless dampened the film’s lavish Cannes party.

Stars of the “Hunger Games” sequel, Jennifer Lawrence, Liam Hemsworth and Sam Clafin, arrived Saturday at the Cannes Film Festival. “Catching Fire,” perhaps more than any other film not actually screening at Cannes, is seeking to use the festival’s global platform to promote the highly anticipated sequel.

Digital flame billboards have constantly burned by the Majestic Barriere hotel. The cast posed for photographers Saturday. And in the evening, Lionsgate held a lavish soiree beside the beach on the Croisette, complete with flowing liquid chocolate and parading models dressed in the film’s ornate costumes.

AP

From left, actors Liam Hemsworth, Jennifer Lawrence and Sam Claflin pose for photographers during a photo call for the film The Hunger Game: Catching Fire at the 66th international film festival, in Cannes, southern France, Saturday, May 18, 2013.

But a planned stunt at the party to promote the film was scuttled due to the poor weather that has plagued the first five days of the French Riviera festival. Lawrence made an enthusiastic appearance, but later fled, grimacing—like other guests—at the cold raindrops.

“The Hunger Games: Catching Fire” will be released in late November.

‘The Voice’ brings back Aguilera, Cee Lo Green

NEW YORK (AP)—”The Voice” is leaving the judging drama to its rivals.

The NBC singing contest said Friday that Christina Aguilera and Cee Lo Green will return for “The Voice” Season 5, joining Adam Levine and Blake Shelton.

Their midseason replacements—Shakira and Usher—will be back for Season 6, which will air in midseason 2014.

Meanwhile Fox is scrambling to revive “American Idol” after record low ratings for Thursday’s finale, with 14.3 million viewers. Original judge Randy Jackson has already announced his exit and Fox is making yet-to-be detailed format changes.

Last week “The Voice” narrowly edged out “Idol” in weekly ratings.

AP

This Oct. 28, 2011 file photo shows, from left, Carson Daly, Cee Lo Green, Adam Levine, Blake Shelton, and Christina Aguilera, from the reality television competition “The Voice”, in Culver City, Calif.

Paul McCartney kicks off “Out There” tour in US

ORLANDO, Florida (AP)—Paul McCartney is kicking off the North American leg of his “Out There” tour in Orlando.

The massive production, which requires 31 trucks’ worth of equipment, includes lasers, huge pyrotechnics, and state of the art video displays, according to the website of the former Beatles star.

McCartney performed the show to a sold-out crowd of 55,000 people in Brazil earlier this month, performing “Band on the Run”, “Hey Jude”, “Yesterday” and “Let It Be.”

He will perform at Orlando’s Amway Center on Saturday and Sunday night. The Orlando Sentinel reports it is McCartney’s only performance in Florida.

Edward Furlong arrested in West Hollywood

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A Los Angeles sheriff’s spokesman says ‘Terminator 2’ star Edward Furlong has been arrested on suspicion of violating a restraining order filed by his ex-girlfriend.

Sheriff’s spokesman Steve Whitmore said that deputies responding to the scene Thursday in West Hollywood found Furlong hiding in a nearby property.

Jail records show he was released Saturday just after noon after being held on $100,000 bail.

In March, the 35-year-old actor had been sentenced to six months in jail for violating his probation in a 2010 case for violating a similar restraining order.

He has been the subject of such orders taken out by both his ex-wife and ex-girlfriend.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Travis sues to block patrol car video release

AUSTIN, Texas (AP)—Country star Randy Travis has filed a lawsuit to prevent two state agencies from releasing a patrol car video of his 2012 drunk-driving arrest in Texas. The Austin American-Statesman reported Thursday that the lawsuit filed in Austin names the Texas Department of Public Safety and the state attorney general’s office. Travis pleaded guilty in January to driving while intoxicated. A judge sentenced him to two years’ probation and ordered a 180-day suspended jail term. The judge also granted a defense motion asking that the arrest video not be made public. Media groups have requested the video. The state attorney general’s office ruled May 3 that the judge doesn’t have discretion to bar the video’s release. State officials didn’t respond to requests for comment early Friday.

Obama to host concert honoring Carole King

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama is putting on a show at the White House next week for singer-songwriter Carole King. She is the first woman to receive the Gershwin Prize for Popular Song from the Library of Congress. The White House says Obama will present the award to King during a concert Wednesday. The program will include performances by King, Gloria Estefan, Billy Joel, Jesse McCartney, Emeli Sandé, James Taylor and Trisha Yearwood. King’s hits during five decades of songwriting include “You’ve Got a Friend,” ‘’So Far Away” and “(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman.” Wednesday’s concert will be the latest in the “In Performance at the White House” series. It will be streamed live on www.whitehouse.gov.

‘American Idol’ finale draws record low ratings

NEW YORK (AP)—Ratings for the “American Idol” finale plunged to a record low for the 12-year-old show. According to Nielsen Co. figures Friday, Candice Glover’s victory over Kree Harrison was watched by 14.3 million viewers. That’s a 33-percent drop from the year before, when 21.5 million viewers saw Phillip Phillips claim the “Idol” crown. That represented the show’s previous record low finale audience. “American Idol” saw an even steeper 44 percent drop among advertiser-coveted young adults for Thursday’s finale. The lack of interest in the winner of this year’s contest parallels the show’s declining ratings for the season. Fox is scrambling to revive the singing contest that once dominated TV, revamping the judges’ panel and making yet-to-be detailed format changes. Original judge Randy Jackson has already announced his exit.

G.E.D. hopefuls should get diploma before costs go up

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DearAbby

DEAR ABBY: I have worked in the field of education for more than 40 years, with the last 25 years serving in adult education, helping students complete their high school equivalency diploma.

BIG changes are impending worldwide in this very important educational service. Starting in 2014, the cost may go up. Up until two years ago, the classes in our community were free. The testing cost $7.50, which paid for a printed diploma. Since then, the cost has gone up—first to $25 and then to $35.

Now the GED program has been bought by a for-profit organization and the costs will go higher than ever. Furthermore, it will no longer be possible to take the test using pencil and paper. It will all be done on computer.

Please encourage the thousands of adults who do not have their high school degrees to make a life-changing decision for themselves and their families NOW!

JOY IN A CLASSROOM DOWN SOUTH

DEAR JOY: I am sure many readers will thank you for this important heads-up. Readers, the changes Joy has described will go into effect on Jan. 2, 2014. According to the media representative for the GED Testing Service in Washington, D.C., the costs of the tests will be determined by the state in which it is administered. It is currently between $0 and $250, and in 2014 will “marginally increase or decrease” according to which state you live in. (Decrease? Forgive me for being doubtful ...) Criteria for passing or failing the test will remain the same.

Readers, any of you who are not computer literate should start now. Do not delay. If you are uncomfortable with technology and have a friend or relative who is knowledgeable, more information can be obtained by visiting www.gedtestingservice.com.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I have been in the workplace for 20 years. During that time I have witnessed lying, cheating, lechery, betrayal, vicious gossip, arrogance, entitlement, stealing and bullying, etc.

Last week, a co-worker whom I liked and respected confided to me that she hopes a 102-year-old relative will die soon because she needs to inherit some money. I was floored and had a hard time keeping the shock off my face.

Does work bring out the worst in people? Is it because we all must be here every day? Is it too many people competing for too few resources? Is my hide too thin? Am I in the wrong job?

THE DAILY GRIND

DEAR DAILY GRIND: When you spend eight hours a day with people, they usually reveal their core values at some point. In your case, you appear to work with someone who “over-shares.” I don’t think your hide is too thin, and I’m not in a position to tell you if you’re in the wrong job. You may, however, be overdue for a vacation.

P.S. Let’s cross our fingers and hope that relative makes it to 110.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Please settle a family disagreement. A scratch ticket is given to a friend or relative as a gift. If that ticket is a winner, is there an expectation that the winnings should be shared with the person who gave the ticket?

JEFF IN MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR JEFF: A gift is a gift. There is no obligation to share. Alexander Pope wrote, “Hope springs eternal in the human breast,” but if you are hoping you’ll get a cut of the money, don’t hold your breath.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To receive a collection of Abby’s most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

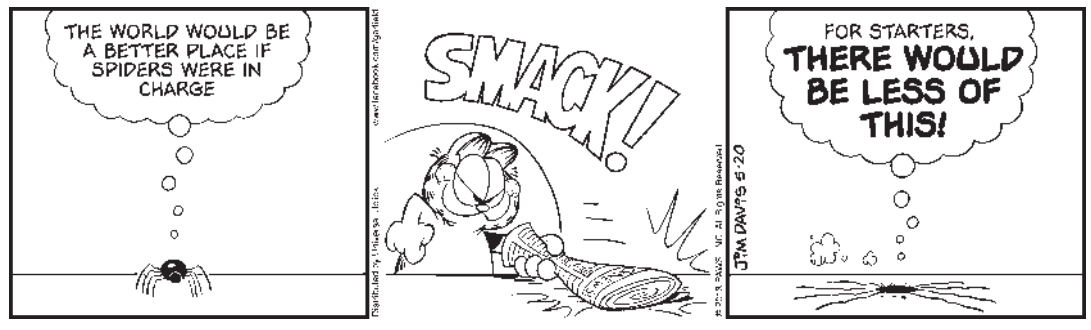
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

LET'S FIND SOME SLUGS AND WORMS.
WHY DO WE WANT TO FIND SLUGS AND WORMS?
BECAUSE THEY'RE GROSS.
THAT'S WHY ONE AVOIDS SLUGS AND WORMS.
IF WE AVOID THEM, WE CAN'T DARE EACH OTHER TO EAT ONE.
TOODLE-OO.
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU? DON'T YOU LIKE FUN?
5-20

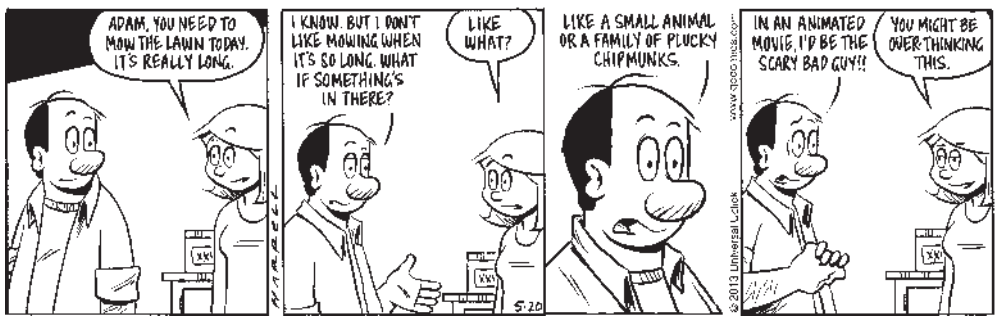
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


ADAM, YOU NEED TO MOW THE LAWN TODAY. IT'S REALLY LONG.
I KNOW. BUT I DON'T LIKE MOWING WHEN IT'S SO LONG. WHAT IF SOMETHING'S IN THERE?
LIKE WHAT?
LIKE A SMALL ANIMAL OR A FAMILY OF PLUCKY CHIPMUNKS.
IN AN ANIMATED MOVIE, I'D BE THE SCARY BAD GUY!!
YOU MIGHT BE OVER-THINKING THIS.
MARCEL
5-20
© 2013 Universal Uclick

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

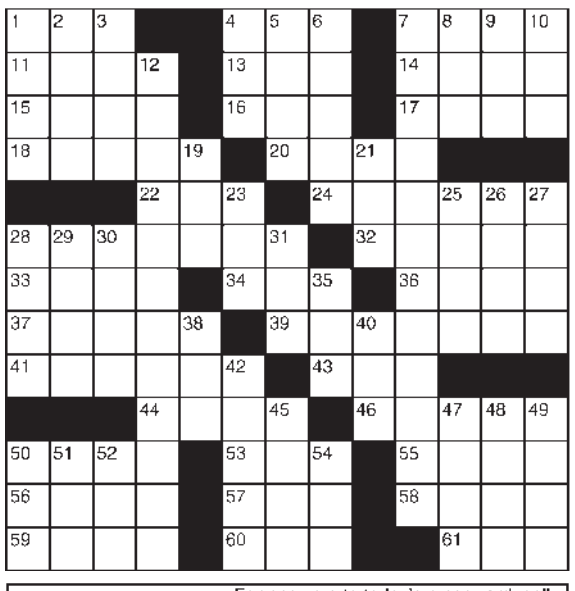
ACROSS
1 Easter treat
4 Wager
7 Retain
11 Metric measure
13 Rowboat need
14 Sleeping
15 Flow like molasses
16 Chum, nowadays
17 Actor Brad
18 Grassland
20 Opening course, often
22 Erstwhile garment
24 Hitchcock classic
28 Spotted insect
32 Radiant
33 Champing at the bit
34 Bathroom fixture
36 Yorkshire river
37 Narc's measures
39 Croquet equipment
41 Catch
43 Second person
44 Related to 5-Down
46 Use a Brillo pad
50 Ballerina's frill
53 Cauldron
55 Japanese zither
56 Press
57 Flightless bird
58 Calendar quota
59 Trudge
60 Kenny G's instrument
61 That girl

DOWN
1 Ids' counterparts
2 Get bigger
3 Middle East strip
4 Go up and down
5 Listeners
6 Army unit
7 Carefree
8 Sapporo sash
9 Allow
10 Banned insecticide
12 Carousel
19 Light touch
21 Portion of N.A.
23 Eviscerate
25 Hint
26 Emcee
27 Hasn't paid yet
28 Michigan, for one
29 Not "fer"
30 Nincompoop
31 Wrigley product
35 Reddish-brown horse
38 Perched
40 — Angeles
42 They're calling Danny Boy
45 Prolonged sleep
47 Fawns' mothers
48 Hexagonal state
49 Induce ennui
50 Gratuity
51 Web address
52 Excessively
54 Monkey suit

Solution time: 27 mins.

D	A	M	O	N		S	I	P		C	A	V
A	L	A	M	O		I	M	A		A	N	I
B	F	D	I	M		M	A	D	O	N	N	A
		I	T	A	L	I	C		R	E	I	N
C	I	S		D	O	A		B	A	S	E	D
E	R	O	S		U	N	F	I	T			
M	A	N	T	I	S		A	T	O	M	I	C
		E	L	E	C	T		R	A	G	U	
S	E	R	V	E		L	E	M		D	O	M
A	L	O	E		I	O	D	I	N	E		
M	A	D	N	E	S	S		D	E	I	C	E
O	N	E		O	L	E		S	A	R	G	E
A	D	O		N	E	T		T	R	A	I	L

Friday's answer 5-20



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Tony Stewart, 42; Bronson Pinchot, 54; Cher, 67; Joe Cocker, 69.

Happy Birthday: Follow through with your plans. Don't let little setbacks stand in your way. Watch your destiny unfold as you step into a new phase of life. Learn from past mistakes and embrace challenge with confidence. You can make a difference if you take a stance. Be an active participant in life and you will achieve the gains you aim for. Your numbers are 4, 15, 21, 27, 36, 43, 48.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Take care of your health and your reputation. Proper diet and a positive outlook will make a difference that can lead to greater earning capacity. Love and romance are on the rise and both business and personal partnerships are highlighted. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Do your best to pick up knowledge, skills and experience. Show what you have to offer and share ideas and solutions with others. Think outside the box when it comes to helping others. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Don't give in to temptation or excess. Consider your options and choose how you move forward based on common sense and maintaining your reputation. Sharing imaginative ideas will lead to your success. Don't let boredom be your downfall. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Take responsibility for what you do and say. Rumors can affect your reputation and impulsive decisions could set you on a course that is irreversible. Showing concern will help, but being taken advantage of must not be allowed. Stand behind your word and make suggestions, but don't meddle. ✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Size up your situation before you say yes to something that may cause controversy. Don't ignore your responsibilities or complaints will bombard you. Handle money, donations, lending and borrowing with care. Put love and romance at the top of your list. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Observe what everyone around you is doing. Don't let your emotions come between you and reason. Take a course or develop a new skill that will help you utilize your talents in new ways. Truth will be paramount in professional dealings. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Keep your standards high and be precise. Honesty and integrity will be a must if you want to avoid an unpleasant situation. Love is on the rise, but not everyone you deal with will have the same intent or motives as you. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Domestic improvements can turn into a costly affair if you don't do your research. Renovating or moving can be good for the soul, but it may not be good for the pocketbook. Do the work or call in favors to cut costs. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Start the process if you wish to make a personal or professional change. A partnership can help you decide which way to go based on what contributions will be made on your behalf. Evening plans should include romance. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Follow through with your plans, but don't push others to tag along. A last-minute change of plans must not daunt you. Follow through and enjoy your day. You'll discover you do your best work when left alone. ✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Don't question what everyone else is doing. Stick to whatever is on your agenda and do the best you can to finish what you start. Socializing or spending quality time with someone special should be how you end your day. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Don't let ego or a difficult relationship cause you to miss out on something you've always wanted to do. You must separate what's possible from what's not and build your plan for the future based on reality. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are versatile, charming and imaginative. You are giving and compassionate.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

				2	7	9		
	7	8	4	6				
	9		8					7
	4	1		7				3
7	3						4	8
6				1		7	2	
3					5		7	
				9	2	6	3	
		4	7	8				

Difficulty Level ★ 5/20

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's SUDOKU Answer

9	1	7	5	3	4	6	8	2
3	8	2	1	6	7	5	4	9
4	6	5	9	8	2	1	7	3
7	4	9	6	5	3	2	1	8
5	2	6	4	1	8	3	9	7
1	3	8	2	7	9	4	5	6
6	7	4	3	9	1	8	2	5
2	9	3	8	4	5	7	6	1
8	5	1	7	2	6	9	3	4

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 5/17

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

MULTIMEDIA GAME ROOMS Solution: 8 letters

C	T	W	R	E	T	A	L	Y	D	A	R	T	S	S
O	O	I	O	S	S	Y	O	T	T	E	N	N	I	S
M	U	N	T	L	T	J	U	S	T	R	O	P	S	P
P	R	N	C	E	N	C	D	A	M	U	S	I	N	G
E	N	E	E	E	C	I	E	D	A	C	R	A	E	N
T	A	R	J	H	N	H	G	F	A	M	I	L	Y	I
I	M	P	O	W	T	T	N	H	F	E	L	B	A	T
T	E	L	R	O	O	M	R	O	T	E	M	A	G	C
I	N	A	P	I	A	S	C	A	L	S	E	A	T	I
O	T	Y	I	D	Z	N	H	H	T	O	P	K	E	D
N	S	E	N	U	T	E	E	O	O	I	G	O	S	D
R	A	R	B	A	E	K	S	C	E	M	O	Y	T	A
A	F	R	A	S	A	O	S	K	A	M	E	N	I	C
C	I	T	L	U	M	T	N	E	M	E	S	U	M	A
E	N	I	L	N	O	J	O	Y	S	T	I	C	K	S

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Addicting, Amusement, Amusing, Arcade, Audio, Chess, Cinema, Competition, Concentration, Darts, Effects, Enjoy, Family, Fast, Game, Hockey, Home, Joysticks, Late, Loud, Multi, Nightspot, Online, Pinball, Player, Prizes, Projector, Race, Room, Seat, Sports, Table, Team, Technology, Tennis, Test, Theater, Tokens, Tournaments, Toys, Wheel, Winner

Last Friday's Answer: Iron Lady

The NEW Treasury 15 can be ordered by calling toll-free, 1-800-642-6483. Order online at wonderword.universaluclick.com. (Contains 130 puzzles, including 31 20x20 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

1996 Model Honda Accord for sale at $2,000 negotiable. Please call 233-8448

FOR SALE

Well established Restaurant for Sale in Garapan $20K call for serious inquiries only. Tel: 233-8448

EMPLOYMENT

1 Dive Instructor, must be PADI licensed. 1 Sales Agent, both positions must understand Mandarin. Mail resume to KDC PMB 1175 Box 10001 SPN.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Lower Navy Hill Apts. Small 3BR & 2BTH. Unit approximately 600 sq.ft. Rooms w/ A/C & fully furnished. Back-up generator. Free Wi-Fi, EPA Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Nightime security. $450/mo. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Fina Sisu Apt., Small 1-BR, 1-BTH. Unit approximately 284 sq.ft. FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. $250/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

Looking for a way to tell everyone about your business?

You're looking at it!

Saipan Tribune
235-6397

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. $450-$550/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. $600/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. $550. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Job Vacancy Announcement
(1) Manager

Min. 5 yrs experience. Extensive knowledge in Accounting, Office Management & Insurance Industry. Ability to adjust in different working environments & deal with various clients of different ethnicity. Salary commensurate with work experience. Send police clearance together with cover letter & resume to friendshipinformation @gmail.com or Friendship Ent., Inc., P.O. Box 501193 CK, Saipan, MP 96950.

Garage Sales

BUSINESS CLOSURE SALE!

- Merchandise like clothing's, beach items, toys, food, natural health medicines and island souvenirs from 20% -70% off!
- 24'x2 Chillers(price negotiable)
- Display shelves of various sizes and shapes!

Sale runs from May 20, 2013 to May 22, 2013!

A One Gift Shop
Across Fiesta Resort and SPA or Hyatt Hotel
Garapan Village, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. No.(670)233-3577
Open Sunday through Saturday:
10 A.M. to 10 P.M.

J. Lee Development Corporation
P.O. Box 500756, Saipan, MP 96950

Job Vacancy Announcement
Building Maintenance Repairer

Duties include minor plumbing, electrical, carpentry, painting and other related work as assigned. 5 years work experience.

PLEASE MAIL RESUME TO OUR OFFICE.

Job Vacancy Announcement
(1) Bakers

Must have previous experience of at least 2-4 years. Must be willing to work from 3:00 in the morning. Must be willing to work flexible hours including weekends and holidays.

Interested applicants please send your resume to:
LFP Corp. dba Marg's Kitchen
P.O. Box 5527, CHRB, Saipan, MP 96950
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

Shear Magic Beauty Salon
FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING
ALL AROUND BEAUTICIAN
CALL 288-6442

UNDERWATER ADVENTURES, LLC.
Vacancy Announcement
1-General Manager
Salary $1800 - $2500 p/m. 2 years management experience. Professional Scuba Diving Instructor License preferred. Proficient in English & Japangese (reading, writing, speaking)

Interested U.S. applicants, may email resume to edwardcalvo@gmail.com

Century Finance Company, Ltd. is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

Accountant
Associate's Degree in Finance or Accounting with at least 3 years work-related experience in a financing or commercial/credit loan business. Must be proficient in the use of SAP R3 FICO and Loan Management Information Systems, MS Excel, Word and PowerPoint software. Must be able to work under time pressure and must work flexible hours. CPA not required.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at Century Finance Company, Ltd. office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Monday, May 27, 2013.

Century Finance Company, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

Job Vacancy Announcement
Audit Manager (1)

Open: May 13, 2013
Closed: May 27, 2013
FLSA Status: Exempt

The CNMI Office of the Public Auditor (OPA) is looking for an Audit Manager. Detailed information about the qualification requirements for the position and employment application may be obtained at the OPA website: http://www.opacnmi.com.

Interested applicants must submit all the required information by mail, email, or hand delivery at the office/email addresses listed below. Submission must be marked confidential and must have the applicant's name and returned address.

Office of the Public Auditor
1236 Yap Drive, Capitol Hill
P.O. Box 501399, Saipan MP 96950
Email: mail@opacnmi.com

www.saipantribune.com

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

General Maintenance Worker (4)
High school diploma or equivalent with experience in equipment and appliance repair. Must have some basic knowledge and troubleshooting experience in plumbing and electrical systems, masonry, carpentry, and other cleaning and general maintenance work inside and outside facilities. Must be able to lift and move heavy supplies and objects. Must be willing to work flexible hours.

Housekeeper (2)
High school diploma or GED Certificate. Dependable attendance, hard working and follows directions well. Must be available to work early mornings, late nights and weekends.

Messenger
High school graduate. Dependable attendance, hard working and follows directions well. Good oral and written communication skills and good driving skills are required. Must provide and maintain own vehicle for work and must be available to work early mornings, late nights and weekends.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Monday, May 27, 2013.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

Accounting Manager
Graduate of 4-year degree course in accounting with at least 5 years experience in financial management: directing the preparation of financial reports; implementing cash management; and directing investment activities for a logistics supply chain business operations. Must have excellent written communication and analysis skills for financial data reporting. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) software, freight forwarding, shipping and logistics software are a must. Expertise with MS Excel, Word and Power Point is required. Must be able to work under time pressure and can work flexible hours.

Accountant
Associate's Degree in Finance or Accounting with at least 3 years experience in financial management for a logistics/supply chain business or agency operations. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 FICO system, freight forwarding, shipping and logistics systems. Must have expertise with MS Excel, Word and Power Point. Must be able to work under time pressure and can work flexible hours.

A pre-employment drug testing will be required. Salaries will be commensurate with qualification and experience. For applications to be considered, they should submit resume to CTSI Logistics, lower base not later than May 31, 2013, Friday.

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

WHATZIT Solution: Surprise party

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

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Pacers knock out Knicks with 106-99 win in Game 6

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—Indiana spent the entire season perfecting its defense.

On Saturday, it produced the biggest payoff for the Pacers in nearly a decade.

Roy Hibbert's block of Carmelo Anthony's dunk attempt midway through the fourth quarter spurred an 11-2 run that rallied the Pacers to a 106-99 victory in Game 6 of their second-round series, sending them into their first Eastern Conference final since 2004.

New York native Lance Stephenson scored nine points in the run, finishing with a playoff career-high 25.

"That's why they pay me the big bucks this summer, so I have to protect the paint," said Hibbert, who signed a $58 million contract last summer. "If all else fails, meaning the offense, I have to protect the paint."

With players from both teams standing on the court as the final seconds ticked off and Pacers fans roaring in appreciation, the sellout crowd wasted little time breaking into chants of "Beat The Heat!"

For Indiana, it sets up a postseason rematch with the defending NBA champs, the team that eliminated them last May after the Pacers had taken a 2-1 lead in the best-of-seven semifinals. The Heat wound up winning Game 4 at Indiana and followed that with two more wins as Danny Granger struggled with a knee injury.

Indiana used the lessons from that series as motivation to improve this season and wound up beating the Heat twice at home before losing the third game of the season series at Miami. The Pacers will return to South Florida for Game 1 on Wednesday night.

AP

Indiana Pacers' Roy Hibbert (55) blocks the shot of New York Knicks' Carmelo Anthony, right, during the second half of Game 6 of an Eastern Conference semifinal NBA basketball playoff series on Saturday, May 18, 2013, in Indianapolis.

With Granger missing all but five games this season because of the lingering knee injury, the Pacers put an even greater emphasis on playing defense and it showed.

Indiana led the league in rebounding, defensive field goal percentage and defensive 3-point percentage while finishing second in points allowed per game during the regular season. It was no different in the playoffs, as the Knicks found out.

New York had another subpar shooting night Saturday, making just 40 percent of its shots, and again wound up on the wrong side of a 43-36 rebounding discrepancy. In the paint, New York was outscored 52-20, and Anthony, who finished with 39 points, scored just four points in the final 12 minutes when he went 2 of 7 from the field.

Iman Shumpert added 19 points, hitting five 3-pointers, and J.R. Smith scored 15. Nobody else was in double figures.

The combination, as it had been in the previous three losses to Indiana, produced the same frustrating result.

"They have a hell of a defense. They hold down the paint. They do a great job, do a hell of a job of controlling the paint, closing it down, making it tough for guys," Anthony said. "You've got to give them guys credit, especially when they got a chance to set. Roy Hibbert gets to sit in the paint, causes havoc."

It's not just that.

The biggest question coming into Saturday's game was whether starting point guard George Hill would play. He took part in the team's morning shootaround, was cleared by the team doctors and wound up returning two days after missing Game 5 with a concussion. His return gave the Pacers a big boost.

Hill finished with just 12 points on 2-of-10 shooting but had five rebounds and four assists, and kept the Pacers composed enough to commit only nine turnovers—10 fewer than Thursday night's loss in New York.

The results showed up everywhere on the floor.

Paul George had 23 points, five rebounds and four assists. David West added 17 points, five rebounds and four assists, and Hibbert finished with 21 points, 12 rebounds and five blocks, none bigger than the stuff on Anthony that changed the game. Stephenson had 10 rebounds and three assists in his best postseason game ever.

The reason: He wanted to avoid a trip home.

"I just didn't want to go back to New York and play Game 7," Stephenson said. "Just get it done with now and I'd do whatever it takes to do that today. It showed tonight."

The New York native made sure of it.

After George grabbed the rebound off of Hibbert's block, Stephenson took a pass from West and scored on a layup to tie the score at 92 with 4:51 left in the game. Stephenson followed that with a steal and drove in for a layup, drawing a foul and completing a three-point play. After grabbing another rebound and making two more free throws, West tipped in a miss and Stephenson closed the decisive spurt with another layup. Suddenly, the Pacers led 101-94 with 1:53 to go.

New York never got another chance to tie the score or take the lead again despite making a far more typical 13 of 30 from 3-point range.

"It's tough to go out this way," coach Mike Woodson said. "I didn't make it happen for us and that's what's disappointing."

The Pacers have a far different goal now as they get ready to face LeBron James, Dwyane Wade and Miami.

"We're not satisfied with where we're at," coach Frank Vogel said. "We feel like there's no ceiling on this team this year."

No Triple Crown: Oxbow upsets Orb at Preakness

BALTIMORE (AP)—Right from the start, a horse trained by one not so over-the-hill Hall of Famer and ridden by another took control of the Preakness. The result: a huge upset and the end of any hopes for a Triple Crown attempt at the Belmont Stakes.

Thanks to Oxbow's wire-to-wire win Saturday over Kentucky Derby winner Orb, trainer D. Wayne Lukas and jockey Gary Stevens have themselves another classic to add to their stellar resumes.

"I get paid to spoil dreams," the 77-year-old Lukas said after his record 14th win in a Triple Crown race. "Unfortunately we go over here and you can't mail `em in. It's a different surface and a different time. You gotta line `em up and win `em."

Stevens ended his retirement in January, and won his third Preakness to go along with three victories in the Derby and three in the Belmont.

"At 50 years old, after seven years retirement, it doesn't get any better than this," Stevens said. "This is super, super sweet and it happened for the right guy. All the stars were aligned. It's even more special winning it for Wayne Lukas and his team."

Lukas put Stevens on his first Triple Crown race winner—when the rider guided the filly Winning Colors to victory in the 1988 Derby. Stevens last won a Triple Crown race in 2001, taking the Belmont aboard Point Given.

"He supported me," Stevens said. "A lot of people were trying to get me off. He was the first guy to call me up and said `I'm going to have a colt for you. His name is Oxbow.'"

Orb was unable to find his rhythm after starting from the No. 1 post, and never challenged in finishing fourth.

"After we passed the half mile, he had a hard time keeping up and I kind of worried a little bit," Orb's jockey Joel Rosario said. "He just kind of steadied after that. He usually takes you there. He always runs hard, but today he never took off."

Orb's loss extends the Triple Crown drought to 36 years since Affirmed became the 11th horse to sweep the races in 1978. There had been great anticipation the sport would get another Triple try just a year after I'll Have Another won the first two races but was scratched the day before the Belmont with a tendon injury.

Lukas won his sixth Preakness to move one behind Robert Wyndham Walden for most wins in the second leg of the Triple Crown.

The victory was a long time coming for the dean of trainers. The last Triple Crown race he won was the 2000 Belmont with Commendable. Before that, he was a regular in the winner's circle after classic races. At one point, he ran off six in a row - from the 1994 Preakness through the 1996 Derby. He also was the first to send out five horses in one Derby, and won it with Grindstone in 1996.

The first trainer to gear his operation toward Triple Crown races, Lukas took a run at the coveted prize in 1999 with Charismatic. The unsung 3-year-old won the Derby and Preakness, but broke his leg in the stretch of the Belmont while finishing third.

Oxbow, sent off at odds of 15-1, took charge from the start out of the No. 6 post and beat Itsmyluckyday by 1 3/4 lengths. Mylute, with Rosie Napravnik bidding to become the first female to win the Preakness, was third, followed by Orb, Goldencents, Departing, Will Take Charge, Govenor Charlie and Titletown Five.

Orb's trainer, Shug McGaughey, so confident in the two weeks leading up to the race, was gracious despite his disappointment.

"It was a great opportunity," the Hall of Famer said. "We were 3-5 and we finished fourth. We'll pack it up and go home. Hats off to Wayne."

He also recalled a brief conversation with Lukas a few days before the race.

"Just two days ago, he said to me `We got another one on the agenda,'" McGaughey said. "And darn if two days later he didn't get it ... When Wayne wasn't going good, he was still the first guy out on his pony. The guy's a credit to racing. He's always upbeat and optimistic."

Orb came into the Preakness with a five-race winning streak and many expected him to win easily. But it wasn't to be on an overcast windy day at Pimlico Race Course, where 117,203 fans turned out.

Oxbow went to the lead ahead of Goldencents and opened some daylight into the first turn. Orb, who broke slowly as expected, wound up in a cluster of horses around the turn and into the backstretch. While Oxbow was cruising along in front, Rosario tried to find room outside but found his path blocked. Orb dropped back to the inside, and perhaps frustrated without any space to run free like he did in the Derby, fell back to seventh and was never a threat in the stretch.

"The pace was slower than I anticipated," McGaughey said. "I thought maybe they would speed it up a little bit but they didn't. I thought we would close into it but it just wasn't his day. He was just never real comfortable once he got down in there."

Oxbow covered the 1 3-16 miles in a slow 1:57.54 and paid $32.80, $12 and $8.80. Itsmyluckyday, 15th in the Derby, returned $7.80 and $5 and Mylute paid $5.20 to show.

Lukas had three of the nine horses in the Preakness, and it was his best Derby finisher who was able to come through. Just like that, he broke the tie with "Sunny Jim" Fitzsimmons for most Triple Crown wins.

"I shared that record with a very special name," Lukas said. "If I never broke it, I was proud of that. But I'm also proud to have it."

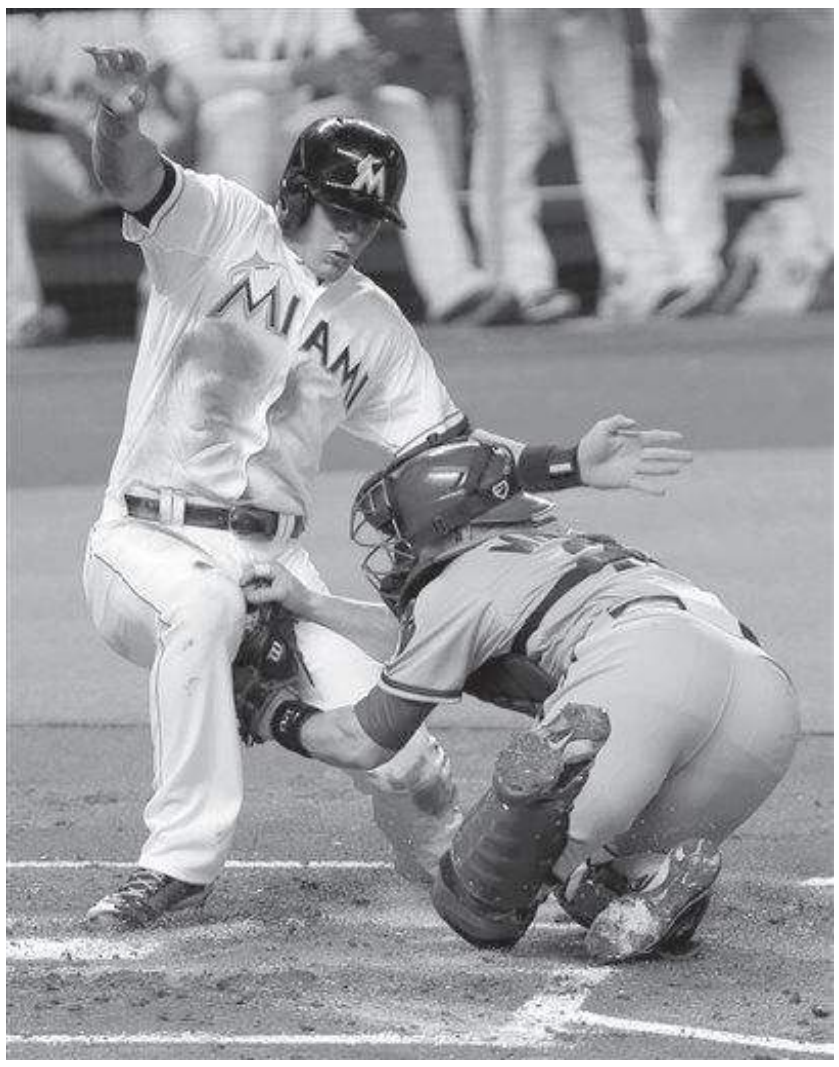
McCarthy throws shutout for 1st victory of year

MIAMI (AP)— Brandon McCarthy pitched a three-hitter for his first win since being struck in the head by a line drive last season, helping the Arizona Diamondbacks beat the Miami Marlins 1-0 on Saturday night.

Gerardo Parra led off the game with a home run for Arizona, which has won four in a row. Miami has dropped a season-worst seven straight games.

McCarthy (1-3) struck out five and walked two while throwing 68 of 99 pitches for strikes in his third career shutout. He was hit in the head by an Erick Aybar liner on Sept 5. 2012, against the Angels while with Oakland. He suffered a skull fracture and underwent surgery that ended his season.

Parra's home run to right-center field came on the first pitch from Tom Koehler (0-2). It was Parra's third career leadoff home run.



AP

Arizona Diamondbacks catcher Miguel Montero tags out Miami Marlins' Derek Dietrich at home plate to end the first inning of a baseball game, Saturday, May 18, 2013 in Miami.

Braves 3, Dodgers 1

In Atlanta, Evan Gattis and Andrelton Simmons hit consecutive homers off Kenley Jansen in the eighth inning, powering the Braves to the victory.

Kris Medlen, Cory Gearrin, and Craig Kimbrel combined on a two-hitter for Atlanta.

Chris Capuano led 1-0 before he allowed a one-out single to B.J. Upton in the eighth. Dodgers manager Don Mattingly brought in Jansen (1-2) to face Gattis, a rookie pinch hitter.

Gattis lined Jansen's 2-2 pitch into the left-field seats for his eighth homer to give Atlanta a 2-1 lead. Simmons hit Jansen's next pitch on a higher arc into the seats in left-center.

Gearrin (1-0) pitched a scoreless eighth in relief of Medlen, who gave up two hits and an unearned run in seven innings. Kimbrel pitched a perfect ninth for his 13th save.

Reds 10, Phillies 0

In Philadelphia, Bronson Arroyo pitched five-hit ball over 7 2-3 innings and Joey Votto was 4 for 4 with a homer, leading Cincinnati to the victory.

Arroyo (4-4) struck out six and allowed one runner to reach third in winning his third straight start against Philadelphia. He was 1-7 in his first 10 games against the Phillies, but has figured them out over the last two seasons.

Votto had a two-run shot and walked twice to reach safely six times. Ryan Hanigan hit a three-run homer.

Kyle Kendrick (4-2) gave up four runs and eight hits with a season-high four walks in six innings. Kendrick hadn't allowed more than two runs in his previous seven starts.

Padres 2, Nationals 1

In San Diego, Everth Cabrera singled in the go-ahead run in the eighth against Jordan Zimmermann, and Yonder Alonso homered and helped turn a heads-up double-play for San Diego.

Zimmermann (7-2) was trying to become the first player in the majors to eight wins this season.

Cabrera singled in Alex Amarista, who reached when catcher Kurt Suzuki fielded his bunt and forced John Baker at second. Zimmermann tried to pick off Amarista but his throw was wide of first baseman Adam LaRoche for an error, allowing Amarista to take second.

Cubs 8, Mets 2

In Chicago, Scott Feldman pitched shutout ball into the seventh inning and drove in two runs with a big two-out double, helping Chicago to its fifth win in seven games.

The Cubs can win three straight series for the first time with a victory on Sunday. Anthony Rizzo had two hits and his first home run since signing a seven-year contract on Monday.

Chicago was going for its first shutout since a victory over Colorado on Aug. 26, but Rick Ankiel broke it up with a two-run homer off Hector Rondon with one out in the ninth.

Rockies 10, Giants 2

In Denver, Tyler Chatwood threw into the sixth inning and Wilin Rosario hit a two-run homer off Tim Lincecum in Colorado's rout of San Francisco.

Promoted from Triple-A Colorado Springs before the game for his second stint with the Rockies this season, Chatwood (2-0) had a shaky second inning but settled in after that and handcuffed the Giants, who managed one run and six hits in 5 2-3 innings.

Rosario made a nifty defensive play to thwart a big second inning and drove in three runs for the Rockies, who beat the Giants for the second straight time after snapping a 10-game losing streak to them with a 10-9 win one night earlier, ending their longest streak over a division opponent since divisional play began in 1969, according to STATS.

Brewers 6, Cardinals 4, 10 innings

In St. Louis, Jeff Bianchi drove in two runs with a 10th-inning single up the middle, lifting Milwaukee over St. Louis.

Joe Kelly (0-2) allowed runs for the first time in five appearances and took the loss. He allowed two hits and a walk in one inning for the Cardinals, who fell to 0-3 in extra-inning games.

John Axford (1-3) gave up one hit and two walks in 1 1-3 innings to earn the win. Axford struck out two, including pinch-hitter Daniel Descalso with the bases loaded to end a ninth-inning threat.

Jim Henderson worked a perfect inning for his eighth save in eight chances.

Astros 4, Pirates 2, 11 innings

In Pittsburgh, Jason Castro led off the 11th inning with a double and scored the go-ahead run on a close play, giving Houston its second win in three games after losing six straight.

Castro doubled off the top of the center-field fence against Bryan Morris (1-2), and Carlos Pena was intentionally walked one out later. The runners moved up on a wild pitch and Castro scored when he beat second baseman Neil Walker's throw home on Matt Dominguez's fielder's choice grounder.

Pittsburgh manager Clint Hurdle argued the call with plate umpire C.B. Bucknor and was ejected. Pinch-hitter J.D. Martinez followed with an RBI single to make it 4-2.

Rookie Jose Cisnero struck out five in 3 2-3 scoreless relief innings for his first major league win.

Rays 10, Orioles 6

In Baltimore, Matt Joyce hit a big two-run double in a six-run ninth-inning rally, lifting the Tampa Bay Rays to a 10-6 victory over the Orioles on Saturday, ending Baltimore's franchise-record streak of 109 straight wins when leading after seven innings.

Joyce also homered and finished 3 for 5 with five RBIs.

It was the third straight road victory for the Rays, all of them come-from-behind wins.

Trailing 6-4, Kelly Johnson hit a one-out homer off Jim Johnson (1-4), whose club-record streak of 35 straight saves ended Tuesday.

Johnson then loaded the bases on two walks and a hit before Joyce doubled to the right-center gap for a 7-6 lead. Ben Zobrist followed with a two-run double off Darren O'Day, who later issued a bases-loaded walk to Luke Scott.

Adam Jones and Chris Davis homered for the Orioles, who have lost four straight.

Alex Torres (1-0) worked four hitless innings for the victory.

Angels 12, White Sox 9

In Anaheim, Calif., Alberto Callaspo hit a three-run homer in Los Angeles' five-run seventh inning, and the Angels snapped Chicago's four-game winning streak.

Callaspo also had a pair of sacrifice flies to give him five RBIs on the day. Mark Trumbo added his 10th homer for Los Angeles, which finished with 17 hits.

Robert Coello (1-0) recorded his first major league victory, retiring all five batters he faced and striking out three after relieving Joe Blanton after another ineffective performance. Ernesto Frieri got four outs for his eighth save.

Hector Gimenez had four hits and three RBIs for the White Sox, who allowed only 10 runs during their winning streak. Paul Konerko and Alexei Ramirez had three hits apiece, and Adam Dunn drove in two runs before leaving in the fifth because of back spasms. Nate Jones (0-4) got the loss.

Indians 5, Mariners 4

In Cleveland, Jason Kipnis scored the winning run in the ninth inning when Brendan Ryan's throw pulled catcher Jesus Montero off the plate, sending the Indians to the victory.

Kipnis, who won Friday's game with a three-run homer in the 10th, sparked the winning rally with a leadoff single against Oliver Perez (1-1). He moved to third on Asdrubal Cabrera's double and Nick Swisher was walked intentionally to load the bases.

Mark Reynolds then hit a sharp ground ball that forced Ryan to make a diving stop, and he was unable to get the forceout at home.

The dramatic victory came after Chris Perez (2-0) blew a save opportunity in the top half of the inning, allowing two-out solo homers to Raul Ibanez and Justin Smoak. Reynolds hit his 12th homer and finished with three RBIs as Cleveland won for the 16th time in its last 20 games.

Yankees 7, Blue Jays 2

In New York, Robinson Cano hit a pair of two-run homers to back a solid effort by David Phelps, and the Yankees beat the Blue Jays for the ninth straight time at Yankee Stadium.

Phelps (2-2) struck out eight while allowing one run in a season-high seven innings, helping New York beat Toronto for the eighth time in nine games this season.

Cano connected off Brandon Morrow with two outs in the third after Brett Gardner drove in the first run of the game with an RBI single. Cano also hit one off Morrow (1-3) with two out in the fifth, a shot that gave him his second multihomer game of the year. He has 12 such games for his career.

Travis Hafner returned to the Yankees' lineup after missing five games because of right shoulder inflammation and hit a two-run homer in the eighth inning.

Edwin Encarnacion connected for his 12th homer for Toronto.

Rangers 7, Tigers 2

In Arlington, Texas, Elvis Andrus had a career-high five hits, Mitch Moreland homered and Texas roughed up Anibal Sanchez in its victory over Detroit.

Andrus scored three runs, had two RBIs and stole a pair of bases as he hit leadoff for the second straight game in place of ailing second baseman Ian Kinsler. Andrus finished off his 5-for-5 game with a single to right in the eighth.

Moreland hit a solo shot off Sanchez leading off the third, his 10th home run of the season.

Sanchez (4-4) gave up a season-high six runs in 2 2-3 innings, his shortest start in almost two years. The right-hander yielded nine hits, walked two and struck out two.

The Rangers (28-15) have the best record in the American League, one game better than the New York Yankees.

Texas starter Justin Grimm (3-3) gave up two runs in 6 2-3 innings to snap a three-game losing streak.

Red Sox 12, Twins 5

In Minneapolis, David Ortiz homered twice and drove in six runs to torment his former team once again, leading Boston over the Minnesota.

Dustin Pedroia had two hits, two walks and an RBI, extending his hitting streak to 10 games. Daniel Nava also went deep for the Red Sox, who have won four straight following a slide in which they had lost 10 of 14.

Scott Diamond (3-4) gave up six runs on eight hits and walked three in 4 1-3 innings for the Twins, who have lost four in a row to fall into last place in the AL Central. Pedro Florimon had two hits and two RBIs and Joe Mauer extended his hitting streak to 15 games with two hits.

Craig Breslow (1-0) pitched 1 2-3 innings of scoreless relief for the win. Ortiz also had a single and a walk, raising his batting average to .362 in a game that lasted 3 hours, 53 minutes.

Athletics 2, Royals 1

In Oakland, Calif., Brandon Moss hit a tiebreaking triple in the sixth inning to help Tommy Milone outduel Ervin Santana in Oakland's win over Kansas City.

The A's had just five hits and were held to two runs for the third consecutive game but made it hold up in front of a rare sellout crowd at the Oakland Coliseum. The A's also beat Kansas City 2-1 on Friday.

Milone (4-5) wasn't crisp and pitched with runners on base in all but one of his six innings. The left-hander allowed a run in the first inning then blanked the Royals the rest of the way to end his five-game losing streak.

Billy Butler singled twice and drove in the only run for Kansas City, which has lost nine of 12.

Santana (3-3) pitched much more effectively than Milone but was denied in his third attempt at earning his 100th career victory.

Bradley keeps lead after 3 rounds at Nelson

IRVING, Texas (AP)—Keegan Bradley still hasn't gotten things right on the 18th hole at the Byron Nelson Championship, even when finally going left.

The bogeys on the closing hole at TPC Four Seasons haven't cost him the lead yet.

Bradley overcame consecutive bogeys early and bogeyed No. 18 for the third round in a row Saturday to finish with a 2-under 68 that kept him in the lead.

"(Sunday) is the day. Right down the middle," Bradley said about that last hole. "I'm due!"

Bradley's 13-under 197 total gave him a one-stroke lead over Sang-Moon Bae, who had his third consecutive 66. Tom Gillis was two strokes back after a 67.

After going way right off the tee at No. 18 the first two rounds, Bradley smashed his drive Saturday down the left side toward the water. The ball stayed dry, but settled behind a large rock and forced him to punch back into the fairway. His approach settled on the front edge of the green and he almost saved par—the ball rolled just over the lip of the cup.

"I thought I made the putt, which would have been exciting," he said. "But 5 on that hole from where I hit it off the tee is a pretty good score."

On Sunday, Bradley will be trying to win at TPC Four Seasons for the second time in three years. He could also become the Nelson's first wire-to-wire winner since Tom Watson led alone at the end of all four rounds in 1980.

"Should be easier than having to come from behind," he said. "I have felt comfortable out there, haven't felt nervous. I feel like I put the time in, I feel like this is where I should be when I play well is near the lead or in the lead."

Bradley got his first PGA Tour victory as a rookie at the Nelson two years ago. He followed that by winning the PGA Championship later that season and the World Golf Championship-Bridgestone Invitational in 2012. The nephew of LPGA great Pat Bradley came from behind on the final day for all of those wins.

After following his opening course-record 60 with a 69 on Friday, Bradley started the third round with a three-stroke lead. He stayed alone at top of the leaderboard throughout.

Scott Piercy's 66 matched Bae and three others for the best round on a breezy Texas day. Piercy was fourth at 10 under, two strokes ahead of Gary Woodland (68), Harris English (68), John Huh (69) and 2011 Masters champ Charl Schwartzel (69).

When 83 players made the cut of even par, there were threesomes instead of traditional twosomes for the third round. That put Bradley in the same group with Bae and Gillis, who started the round tied for second place.

A secondary cut trimmed the field to 72 players for the final round, when Bradley plays with Bae in the final group. Gillis is paired with Piercy.

"Keegan is playing pretty good, but you got to play `em all, see how it shakes out," said Gillis, who missed the cuts in his previous five tournaments.

Gillis was the last player in the field with a bogey Saturday, when he three-putted from 20 feet at the 203-yard 17th. He got that stroke right back when he blasted out of a greenside bunker for an unexpected birdie at No. 18.

"Makes dinner taste better, that's for sure," Gillis said.

Bradley first got to 12 under with a 13-foot birdie at the 505-yard third hole and saved par at the next hole after driving into a fairway bunker.

His consecutive bogeys came when he two-putted for bogey after missing the green at the par-3 fifth and then drove into the rough at No. 6. But after a long wait to tee off at the 542-yard seventh hole, Bradley got to the green in two and two-putted from 14 feet for a birdie.

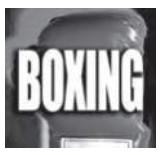
When Bradley's drive at No. 11 settled just a few inches above the top edge of a bunker, it looked like he might have some trouble. But he hit his approach shot onto the green, 34 feet from the cup, and sank the birdie putt to get to 13 under. He blasted within 12 feet from a greenside bunker at the par-5 16th hole for birdie.

Bae, the 26-year-old South Korean who has 11 international victories but none on the PGA Tour, was quickly within a stroke of the lead after birdies on the first two holes. He made a 9-footer on the first and curled in a 32-foot birdie putt at the 223-yard second hole.

A 12-footer for birdie at the eighth hole got Bae to 10 under, again only a stroke back. But Bradley made a 14-foot birdie putt to close out the front nine and made the turn with a two-stroke lead over Bae and Gillis, who also made a birdie from 14 feet at the ninth hole to get to 10 under.

"Only play just my game," Bae said when asked how difficult it will be trying to overtake Bradley. "Nobody knows."

Pacquiao must retire if he loses again, says Roach



There's no middle ground for Manny Pacquiao when he battles Brandon Rios on Nov. 24 at The Venetian Macao.

A win guarantees extension of Pacquiao's storied career while a loss means it's time to hang up his gloves, according to Hall of Fame trainer Freddie Roach.

"If he (Pacquiao) loses, I will tell him to retire," Roach told ESPN.com. "If you lose three in a row it's your time. He's up there in age (34). I've got to keep a close eye on him. It's part of my job to protect him. I will do the right thing. I don't want him to be a stepping stone (for other fighters)."

Pacquiao trusts Roach's ring judgment and the eight-division world champion has repeatedly said that he would heed whatever the five-time trainer of the year will tell him.

Roach believes that, despite getting knocked out cold in the sixth round by Mexican rival Juan Manuel Marquez last Dec. 8, Pacquiao still has some fight left in him. The Filipino icon holds a 54-win,5-loss, 2-draw record with 38 knockouts.

Roach said Pacquiao's style is suited for Rios, who is also a power hitter with a 31-1-1 (23 KOs) slate.

Meanwhile, years ago Macau snatched the title of the world's biggest gambling hub from Las Vegas and now, it wants a slice of the boxing action, too.

With Pacquiao following Chinese star Zou Shiming to the glitzy casino haven near Hong Kong, Macau looks set to copy Vegas by becoming a boxing capital—with promoters eyeing a huge potential audience in China.

The November 24 bout between Pacquiao and Rios in the semi-autonomous territory will be the biggest pro fight yet on Chinese soil. Not surprisingly, it will be financially advantageous for all concerned.

Pacquiao, 34, once considered the world's best pound-for-pound fighter but now battling back from two straight losses, saves a fortune in American tax. He has not fought outside the United States since 2006.

Macau, and especially The Venetian, the giant casino-resort which is hosting the fight, gains more visitors, a higher profile, and an image diversified away from gambling.

And top American promoter Bob Arum brings another big event to China, which he calls the "new destination for big time boxing." Zou's win against Eleazar Valenzuela last month drew an estimated 300 million TV viewers in the country.

Organizers say no final decision has been made on the fight's timing, although expectations are high that it will be on the morning of November 24, which is a Sunday, to hit Saturday night TV audiences in the US.

The unusual start time could copy the strategy used way back in 1975, for the legendary "Thrilla in Manila" when Muhammad Ali fought Joe Frazier from 10:45 a.m. in the Filipino capital.

Macau's gambling profits overtook Las Vegas in 2006 and Glenn McCartney, assistant professor of gaming and hospitality management at the University of Macau, said it now needed to diversify.

"Historically it's been labelled as a gaming destination," he said. "In Vegas 15 or 20 years ago they realized they could make money from other leisure tourism or business streams.

"There can be a tremendous multiplier effect on hosting events, which needs to be looked at more in order to push this strategy more across the industry. You want to get a positive branding that this is now a city of diversity." Arum tested the waters for Macau as a big fight venue in April, when China's shining hope Zou fought his professional debut there.

Signing up the country's most successful ever amateur was a shrewd move by Arum, founder and chief executive of Top Rank promotions, who can clearly smell the big money to be made in the country of 1.3 billion people.

Two-thirds of the 15,000 seats in The Venetian's CotaiArena venue were filled for the four-round bout, which saw Zou beat Mexico's Valenzuela in a unanimous points decision.

Arum, 81, said at the time: "It's a country where people are just starting to have the opportunity to sample what we in the West are used to, like professional boxing. ***(PDI)***

Emon Lodge caging meeting tonight

Representatives of teams interested in joining the Emon Lodge No. 179 Brotherhood Basketball League 2013/Docomo Pacific Cup are requested to attend a meeting tonight at 6pm at Shirley's Coffee Shop in Susupe.

Organizers will discuss with the participants details about the opening, final rosters, and entrance fee.

The third edition of the Emon Lodge caging will only accept a maximum of eight teams with each squad allowed to have as much as 12 players in its roster. The league is open to players of all ages and uniforms are included in the $600 entrance fee.

For more information about this year's Emon Lodge caging, contact Bong Malasarte at 287-5525 or email at bong@malasarte.com; Edwin Arenas at 233-6850 or email at edwinarenas_31@yahoo.com; and Peter Crisostomo at 483-2356 or email at peter_crisostomo@yahoo.com. ***(Roselyn B. Monroyo)***

MP UNITED

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goals in last weekend's finals. He got into the board right into the first minute of the 60-minute match and earned his second goal just four minutes later. Martin then widened the gap with his goal in the 14th minute.

Matansa failed to retaliate, as they had limited attacks in the first half, while MP United continued to dominate possessions in the second half.

With its shutout win, MP United was later awarded the perpetual trophy in a brief ceremony with NMIFA official Glenn Perez handing the hardware to coach Seung Joon Lee.

MP United, which listed nine other players on its roster, including Juan Quitano, Matthew Ong, Michael Lee, Eui Jin Byen, Ashton Park, Christian Bravo, Alex Kim, Makie Binalay, and Andy Kim, advanced into the finals after downing Paire in the semifinals last Tuesday, 2-1.

Matansa took the other finals berth against the Tan Holdings U5 Girls, 3-1. Matansa's roster includes John Bucayo, Kelsey Conlo, Bradley, Lance, and Mary Jo Camacho, Joshua De Leon, Nolan Gatharngeg, David and Hanah Mafnas, Ronnel Ocanada, Jedidiah Peteru, Keyona Tudela, Robert Smith, Iverson Santos, Daniel Villamero, and Jether Yobech. Rengesuul Yobech coaches the squad.

SENIOR

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center field before Jose Lizama kept the Enforcers' hopes alive, walking to first and later stealing second. Lizama remained at second, as Evangelista, who came in for Frank Lieto, struck out Jeff Dela Cruz. With two outs and Franklin Lizama at bat, Jose Lizama gambled, but was caught stealing third base for the last out and the end for the Enforcers' season.

The Enforcers lost their first opportunity to barge into the finals after also allowing the Fielders to score runs in the closing innings.

The Enforcers were ahead, 5-4 after four and a half innings when the Fielders tucked on five runs at the bottom of the fifth to steal the lead and the win. Jerry Kintol hit an RBI double, while David Ada and Kainao Wanket drilled RBI singles, and the two other runs came off errors at second base.

Now ahead, 9-5, the Fielders' preserved the lead, as they knocked down the Enforcers' first three batters in each of the last two innings with three putout plays, two fly outs and a strikeout from Wanket, who pitched in no relief.

The Fielders will battle the Braves in a winner-take-all finale tomorrow at 5pm.

Meanwhile, results in the semis games in the Junior and Big League divisions will be reported later this week.

FIELDERS

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initial onslaught. Masaharu's first at-bat at the top of the second resulted in a two-run single and allowed the Fielders to tie the match after the Yankees got three runs at the top of the first.

John Manibusan was the starting pitcher for the Fielders, but was quickly recalled to the bench after giving up three hits and two runs. Shane Mendiola took over the mound and went on to pitch six innings and strike out seven to keep the Fielders' distance before Joe Palacios replaced him at the bottom of the seventh.

Palacios then allowed four hits and four runs, two earned, but recorded two strikeouts at the bottom of the ninth and last inning to seal the win for the Fielders. He got the first strike against leadoff batter Tom Agulto, while the second out came off a 5-3 play against Greg Iskawa. Frank Roberto, who had an RBI single in his earlier stint at the plate, was next at bat, and this time Palacios struck him out to end the series in favor of the Fielders.

The Fielders avoided elimination in Game 2, as they also scored seven runs in the first three innings to catch the Yankees off guard. Jordan Pangelinan made a two-run double, while Marvin Ngeskebei connected on an RBI single, and the four other runs came off errors, giving the Fielders a promising 7-1 lead after three complete innings.

The Yankees never recovered, as they struggled at the plate against Joe Palacios, who pitched nine complete innings and struck one nine, while giving up only three earned runs.

Meanwhile, the Fielders start their title series with the favored Brewers tonight.

33 PBTs set in 50m freestyle

KYUNGAH THOMPSON

A Saipan Swim Club swimmer is seen here racing in the 50m freestyle race in last month's SSC Invitational Meet at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool. SSC and Tsunami Saipan swimmers returned to the pool early this month and set 33 PBTs in the 50m freestyle event.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

There was a personal best time rush in the 50m freestyle event in last week's 2012-2013 NMISF Championship Meet.

Of the 72 PBTs recorded in the Northern Mariana Islands Swimming Federation-sanctioned competition at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool, 33 were posted from the 50m freestyle races.

The PBTs galore started in the girls U8 age group with seven of the nine participants breaking their old marks. Tsunami Saipan's Ashley Danghol had the biggest drop, timing in at 1:05.62 to surpass her seed time of 1:14.57. Five other Tsunami Saipan bets also set new PBTs with Nanaka Watanabe clocking in at 51.06 seconds (from 56.01 seconds), Natsuki Nagata submitting 58.58 seconds (from 1:01.43), Kana Suzuki tallying 1:06.07 (from 1:10.34), and Shaunalyn Babauta recording 1:08.81 (from 1:13.34).

Completing the list of swimmers achieving PBTs in the girls U8 50m freestyle were Saipan Swim Club's Susana Villagomez (1:04.51) and Ayaka Sato (1:09.08).

In the boys U8, four crushed their previous PBT. SSC's Jinnosuke clocked in at 43.26 seconds, chopping off more than three seconds from his old mark (46.92 seconds). His teammates Wataru Kadokura (1:44.78), Taiyo Akimaru (44.23 seconds), and Richard Villagomez (51.65 seconds) and Tsunami Saipan's Anthony Deleon Guerrero (58.78 seconds) rounded out the list.

Ten more PBTs fell and this time it came from the 9 to 10 age group. Three girls set new PBTs with Tsunami Saipan's Sophia Gauran leading the way with her 38.35 seconds, more than four seconds faster than her old mark of 42.83 seconds. SSC's Jin Ju Thompson and Tsunami's Aika Watanabe also logged PBTs with their 41.50 and 44.88 seconds, respectively.

In the boys division, SSC's Lennosuke Suzuki posted the second fastest time at 36.47 seconds, which was also his new PBT. Other swimmers who earned PBTs in his group were fellow SSC bets Akira Kadokura (45.24 seconds), Miku Torres (46.30 seconds), Zion Okano (1:01.98) and Tsunami Saipan's Jhota Yoshino (46.60 seconds), Towa Irinaka (47.76 seconds), and Nelson Batallones (51.53 seconds).

The boys 11 to 12 age group was a Tsunami Saipan sweep with Hiroto Yanai the fastest in the group with his PBT of 30.50 seconds, followed by Mark Maestro (34.56 seconds), Morgan Kim (47.79 seconds), Donovan Torres (58.72 seconds), and Jerevon Torres (1:05.50).

In the girls division, Tsunami Saipan's Kathrine Illahi came in at first with her PBT of 42.15 seconds (from 43.31 seconds). Also notching PBTs in the division were SSC's Sami Nimura (53.22 seconds) and Tsunami Saipan's Megumi Yoshino (45.21 seconds).

The last three PBTs in the 50m freestyle came from the final two events of the competition with Tsunami Saipan's Takumi Sugie and SSC's David Boyer timing in at 28.52 seconds and 37.69 seconds in the 13 to 14 age group, respectively, and Tsunami Saipan's Kensuke Kimura logging 26.64 seconds in the boys over 15 category.

Meanwhile, SSC's Victoria Chentsova also raced in the over 15 age group and set two new PBTs—35.47 seconds in the 50m butterfly and 1:18.31 in the 100m backstroke.

Two more SSC swimmers made PBTs in the 50m butterfly with Rinto Takahashi recording 45.24 seconds and Kento Akimaru submitting 32.86 seconds.

Takahashi also got a PBT in the 200m individual medley with his 3:27.47, while his teammates Rintaro Miyawaki and Jinnosuki Suzuki held the same feat in the 200m freestyle, posting 3:32.36 and 3:33.33, respectively.

Hoopaholics, DFS blow out opponents

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Hoopaholics waltzed past Kanoa Resort, 85-53, during the first game in the 2013 Shirley's Coffee Shop Basketball League last Friday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

The Hoops, which improved to a 4-1 record for second place in the 10-squad field, ended the one-sided bout right in second quarter, as it turned an 8-point lead, 13-21, to a 44-24 bubble at halftime.

Kelvin Fitial led the breakaway, drilling 7 of his 15 points in the second canto and he drew a lot of help, as five of his teammates also broke into the scoreboard in that period.

Enjoying a huge margin after the first half, the Hoops used the second half to shuffle its men and give them opportunity to score, as Kanoa Resort made no effort of launching a big comeback to remain winless in four games.

The Hoops' lead ballooned to 21 after the third canto with Marlon Cabrera contributing 5 points off the bench. His team went on to secure its biggest winning margin so far in the season, as Kanoa was just contented trading baskets with the Hoops in the final canto.

In the second game, DFS (3-3) also cruised to a 90-69 win over Saipan Apparel (1-5).

Saipan Apparel gave DFS a good fight only in the first quarter, taking a 3-point lead, 19-16, behind the 6 early points of Pedro Lizama.

Lizama was then held to 3 points in the last three quarters and his sluggish shooting rubbed off his teammates, while DFS' starters began to work in the second period and kept it going in the second half en route to the 21-point win.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Hoopaholics' Marlon Cabrera turns toward the right baseline and is fouled by Kanoa Resort's Dino Valdez during the fourth quarter of their game in the Shirley's caging last Friday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Four of DFS' starting five finished in twin digits with Junar Guiab making 24 points, Elmer Esdrelon adding 21, and Keoni Chariton and Jack Lizama logging 16 and 10, respectively. Dan Barcinas completed DFS' balance scoring, chipping in 11.

First Game

Hoopaholics 85 – Fitial 15, Diaz 12, Lauron 10, Itibus 9, Lee 8, Cabrera 5, Tenorio 3, Sablan 2, Villagomez 2.

Kanoa Resort 53 – Inos 16, Pablo 14, Jinang 10, Ong 7, Basa 6, Mejia 4, Valdez 2.

Scoring by quarters: 21-13, 44-24, 65-44, 85-58.

Second Game

DFS 90 – Guiab 24, Esdrelon 21, Chariton 16, Barcinas 11, Lizama 10, Dikito 3, Miron 2, Hirochi 2.

Saipan Apparel 69 – Teregeyo 22, Norita 15, Lizama 9, Diaz 8, Sablan 7, Guerrero 6, Sasamoto 4, Crisostomo 2.

Scoring by quarters: 16-19, 48-33, 65-55, 90-69.

Fourth-quarter assault lifts Chinatown to win

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Chinatown unloaded its guns in the payoff quarter en route to an 87-69 win over Wanted Sponsor in the curtain raiser in the 2013 DLX Invitational Basketball League last Friday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Chinatown (2-2) entered the final canto down by 5, 54-59, when it turned the tables on Wanted Sponsor (0-3), scoring 34 big points to post a double-digit winning margin. Justine Zapanta, Jerome Norita, and Paul Quizon teamed up in the fourth-quarter attack, combining for 21 markers in the payoff period.

The trio combined for eight field goals, enough to outscore Wanted Sponsor, which was held to three field goals, collapsing in the fourth frame after catching Chinatown off guard at the start of the second half.

Chinatown was still ahead at the beginning of the second half, 43-37, when Wanted Sponsor opened the third with a 10-2 run to grab the lead. Sonny Lerio led the rally, scoring 6 points and he added 5 more to keep his team on top.

However, Lerio went cold in the fourth and was limited to three free throws, while the much younger and faster Chinatown crew brought their A game in the final canto to deny Wanted Sponsor an entry to the win column.

Norita top-scored for Chinatown with his 16 points, while Zapanta and Lester Lapuz chipped in 14 and 11, respectively. Lawrence Deleon Guerrero paced Wanted Sponsor with is 16 markers.

Mawati 62, King's 57

In the second game, Mawati snapped its three-game losing skid after beating King's.

Mawati also won the match in the fourth quarter, as it limited King's to 10 points and two field goals. On offense, Mawati drew at least 4 points apiece from three players and got contributions from two others.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Chinatown's Lester Lapuz, left, reaches in for the ball, as Wanted Sponsor's Lawrence Deleon Guerrero dribbles past midcourt during the third quarter of their game in the DLX caging last Friday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Webb Guntar led Mawati with his 18 points, while Ian Larot and Francis Serrano also finished in twin digits, adding 16 and 13, respectively.

Larot's 6 early points kept Mawati in the game in the first half, as it was down by only 5. Jaymark De Guzman logged 10 points in the opening canto to give King's the upper hand.

The match then ended in a deadlock at the break, 32-all, with Larot finding an ally in Guntar and De Guzman still anchoring King's' offense. De Guzman finished the half with 19 markers and added 8 more in the third, as King's held a shaky lead entering the final canto, 47-46.

In the payoff period, Mawati managed to grab the driver's seat, as they neutralized De Guzman, who scored only 2 points, and got the needed baskets from its key players.

First Game

Chinatown 87 – Norita 16, Zapanta 14, Lapuz 11, Quizon 8, Chan 8, Ajoste 6, Mancao 6, Pua 6.

Wanted Sponsor 69 – L. Deleon Guerrero 16, Lerio 15, Diyco 14, Musni 6, Cadag 6, R. Deleon Guerrero 6, Siriban 2.

Scoring by quarters: 20-24, 43-37, 54-59, 87-69.

Second Game

Mawati 62 – Guntar 18, Larot 16, Serrano 13, Reyes 8, Manalon 4, Carrera 2.

King's 57 – De Guzman 30, Jugos 9, Alegre 9, Barios 4, Mariano 2.

Scoring by quarters: 12-17, 32-32, 46-47, 62-57.

Pacers knock out Knicks with 106-99 win in Game 6

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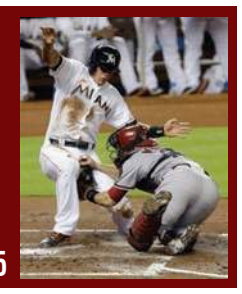
Saipan Tribune
Sports

McCarthy throws shutout for 1st victory of year



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MP United U12 reclaims FA Cup

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

MP United U12 topped the 2013 NMIFA Spring FA Boys & Girls Cup after shutting out Matansa U12 in the finals, 3-0, last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

The finals win last weekend allowed MP United to regain the championship it last won in December 2011 against Paire FC (1-0). Matansa grabbed the FA Cup in May 2012, beating Tan Holdings, 2-1, but failed to clinch back-to-back championship against the much experienced squad of MP United U12.

MP United U12 played the winner-take-all finale with Alex Park, Clayton Izuka, Steven Martin, Joshua Abragan, and Sunjoon Tenorio leading its roster. The five MP United U12 starters suited up for the CNMI U14 National Team, which recorded a historic win in the AFC U14 Championship 2014 Qualifiers after beating Guam, 1-0, off Tenorio's goal.

Tenorio went on to keep his winning ways in the FA Cup, scoring twin

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

An MP United U12 striker goes for a back kick while a Matansa U12 player stays on defense during the second half of their title game in the 2013 NMIFA Spring FA Boys & Girls Cup last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The NSA Braves players and officials pose for a group photo after edging the DARE Enforcers, 7-6, in the Senior League semis game yesterday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Fielders vs Braves for Senior League crown

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Fielders and NSA Braves arranged their title duel in the Senior Division of the 2013 Saipan Little League Baseball after winning their respective playoff games over the weekend at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The Fielders notched the first finals seat after downing the DARE Enforcers, 9-5, in the semis battle between the Top 2 teams in the regular season last Saturday, while the Braves needed two victories to claim the second and last finals berth. The third-seeded Braves first thwarted the Hunters, 7-4, last Saturday and then handed the Enforcers a second beating, 7-6, yesterday to march into the finals.

A two-run top of the seventh inning lifted the Braves to the close win. The crucial runs came off Frankie Norita and Frank Lieto's RBI walks and were made after the Braves were called for two early strikeouts at the top of the seventh, which started with the Enforcers holding a precarious 6-5 lead.

The Braves got the needed runs with Payton Lizama on the mound, relieving Darion Jones. The relief pitcher struck out leadoff batter Mike Iguel and A.J. Evangelista, but after a strong start, Lizama was called for a hit by pitch and walked four batters, giving the Braves free runs before he got his third strikeout against Barry Sunumai.

The Enforcers tried to bounce back in the last innings, but failed to score, losing their two chances of advancing into the finals. They started the bottom of the seventh with a fly out to

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Fielders dethrone Yankees, march into final

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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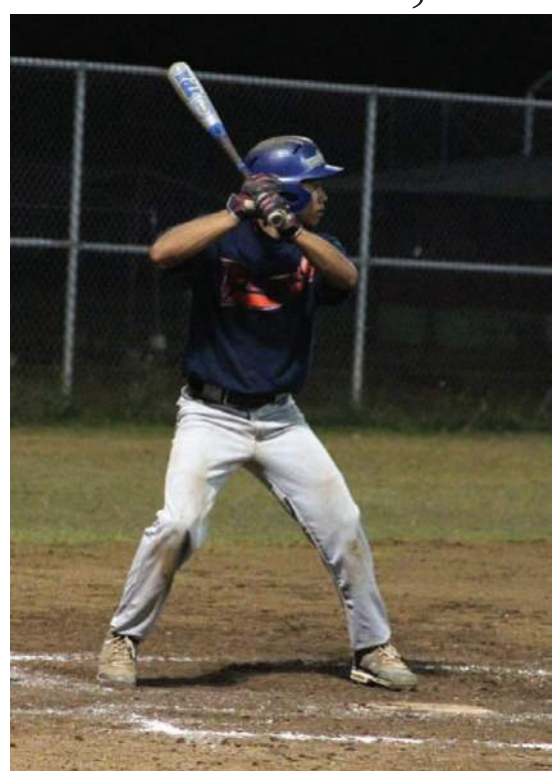
REPORTER

The IP&E Fielders took the second and last finals berth in the 2013 Saipan Major League after recording a 13-9 win against the Saipan Stevedore Northern Yankees in the deciding Game 3 of their semis series last Friday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The Fielders advanced to the best-of-five championship showdown against the Tan Holdings Brewers after notching back-to-back wins over the dethroned Yankees. The Yankees prevailed in Game 1 of the short series, 15-4, before losing Game 2, 9-5, last Monday, and then the semis series finale, allowing the Fielders to foil a finals rematch between the former and the Brewers.



Good hitting in the early innings of Games 2 and 3 lifted the Fielders to an upset over the Yankees.

In Game 3, the Fielders bagged seven runs in first three innings to grab the lead, which they protected in the remaining six innings. Poland Masaharu went 2-for-2 in the early goings of the match and scored one run and three RBIs and the Fielders went on get 8 base hits in the

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An IP&E Fielders batter waits for the pitch during Game 2 of their semis series against the Saipan Stevedore Northern Yankees in the SML last Monday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

ROSELYN. MONROYO